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THE ORIGINAL MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO NEBRASKA ATHLETICS

HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

FLAGGED FOR A LOSS

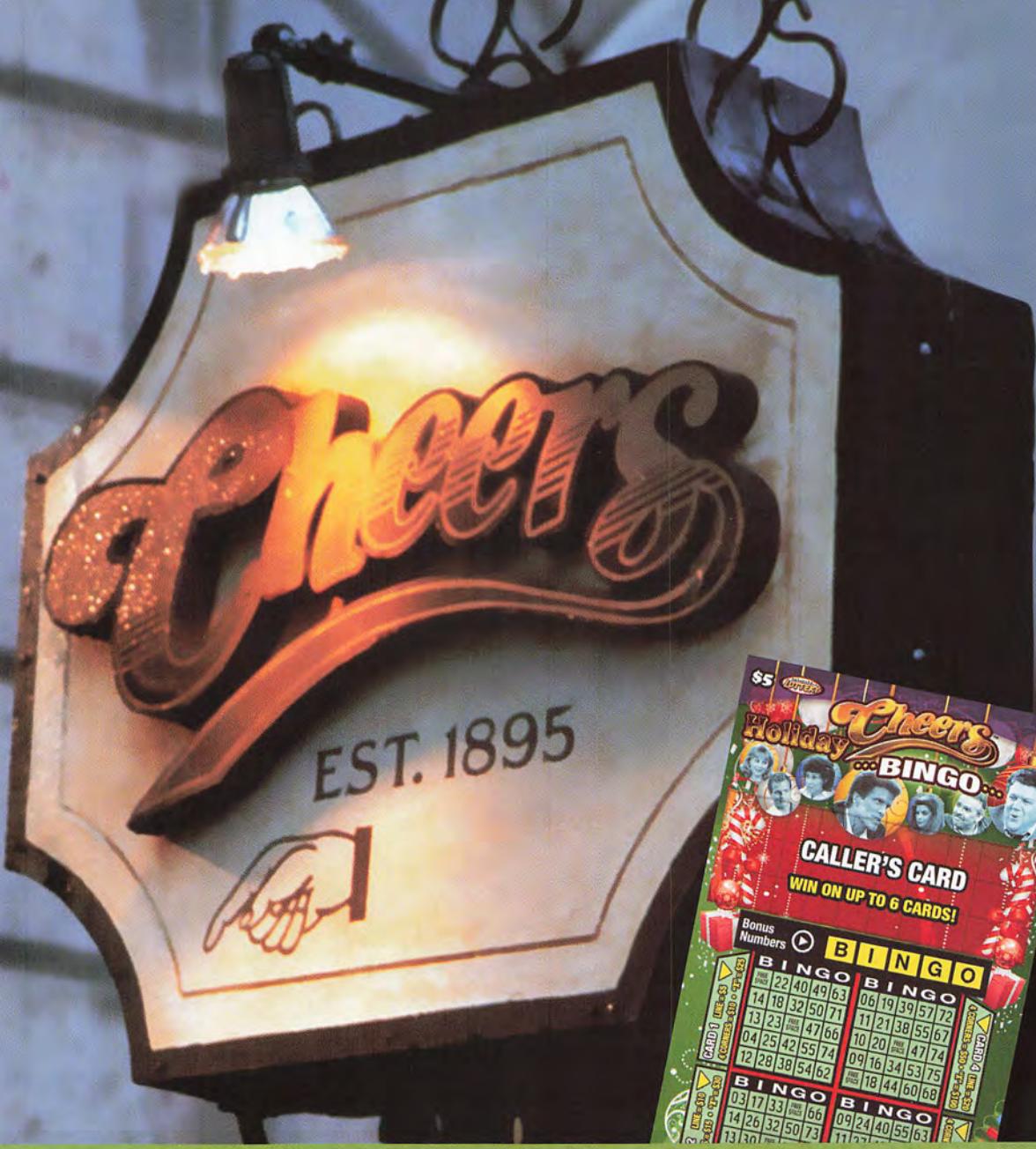
Huskers flagged for school-record 16
penalties in 9-6 defeat at Texas A&M.



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NOVEMBER 26, 2010
VOLUME 30 | NO. 18 | \$3.95

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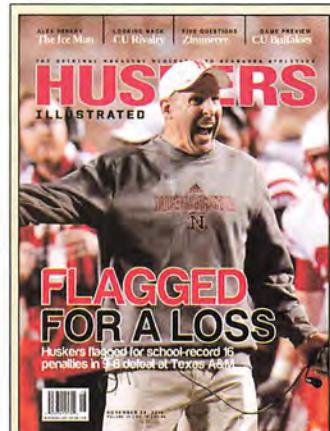
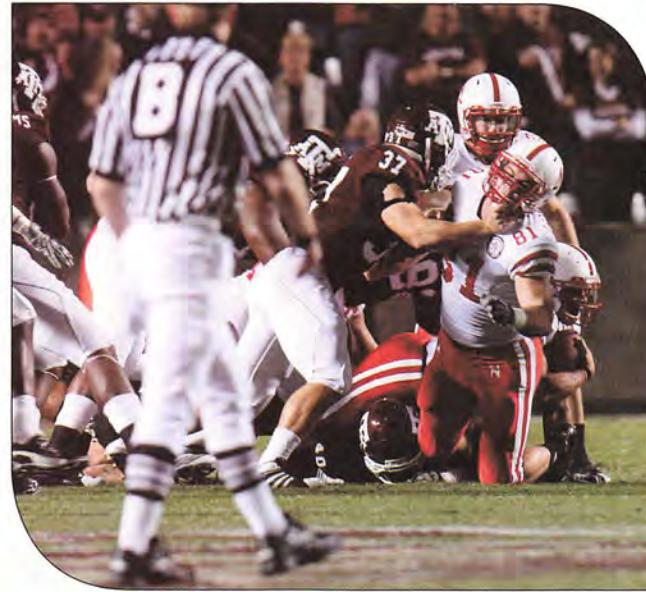


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THE FINAL WORD

BY MIKE BABCOCK

Pelini, Huskers can't beat "12th Man"



HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

ON THE COVER

Bo Pelini screams at an official after one of Nebraska's 16 penalties. The Cornhuskers were flagged for a total of 145 yards. Both the 16 flags and 145 yards were school records, eclipsing the previous marks of 14 penalties and 141 yards.

This is when **40** years of experience comes in handy.

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NEXT ISSUE

Volume 30, Issue 19, the Colorado recap and Big 12 preview, will be mailed Monday, Nov. 29. Check for updates at huskersillustrated.com.

Photo by Scott Bruhn

COMPOSURE

Coaches must be better models for self-control

NEBRASKA LOSING AT Texas A&M wasn't as much of a surprise as the fashion in which Nebraska lost.

Heading to College Station, Nebraska knew it was facing the hottest team in the conference in one of the loudest venues in the country. Nebraska's Blackshirts were impressive, holding the Aggies to 2-of-13 on third downs.

Offensively, Nebraska couldn't get in the end zone and struggled to finish off drives.

But the most alarming image was watching the Cornhuskers lose with a total lack of self-control and discipline.

And that starts with its head coach.

Nebraska's school-record 16 penalties for 145 yards are documented at length in this issue.

Was the officiating was poor?

Definitely.

But you can't help but wonder how much head coach Bo Pelini's sideline tirades magnify an already one-sided situation. Pelini had a right to be upset.

Nebraska must learn to retain composure. Instead the Huskers lost it. Of Nebraska's 16 penalties, six were personal fouls, including one on the bench.

In the first quarter, Ben Cotton was flagged for two personal fouls on one play. While at the bottom of a pile, Cotton was taking dirty shots from defensive lineman Tony Jerod-Eddie.

Of course the officials didn't see that. The officials did see Cotton kick at Jerod-Eddie, which resulted in the first flag. Cotton blew a gasket and removed his helmet, which resulted in the second flag.

As expected, Cotton received a tongue-



lashing (actually like four separate ones) on the sideline. Pelini ripped Cotton for losing his composure.

In the fourth quarter the bench, presumably Pelini, was flagged for losing its composure.

Personally, I think it's impossible for a coaching staff to expect players to have self-control if the coaches can't do it themselves.

Pelini and his staff must lead by example.

After the game, Carl Pelini reportedly lost it as well. According to employees of TexAgs.com, Carl threw a photographer's video camera to the ground.

Emotions run extremely high in a game like this. But if Nebraska wants to win a championship, it needs to play like a champion. The Huskers, both players and coaches, must learn to channel their aggression and find ways to overcome adversity.

The good news is that Nebraska still controls its own destiny. A win on Friday over Colorado will send the Huskers back to the Big 12 Championship game. If Nebraska truly feels like it is getting a raw deal from the Big 12 this season, there is only one way to fight it.

Win the Big 12 Championship and exit the Big 12 Conference by carrying the trophy off the field.

I guarantee nobody in the Big 12 will be happy about that. **N**

Send me your comments or story ideas to aaron@huskersillustrated.com.

THROUGH T



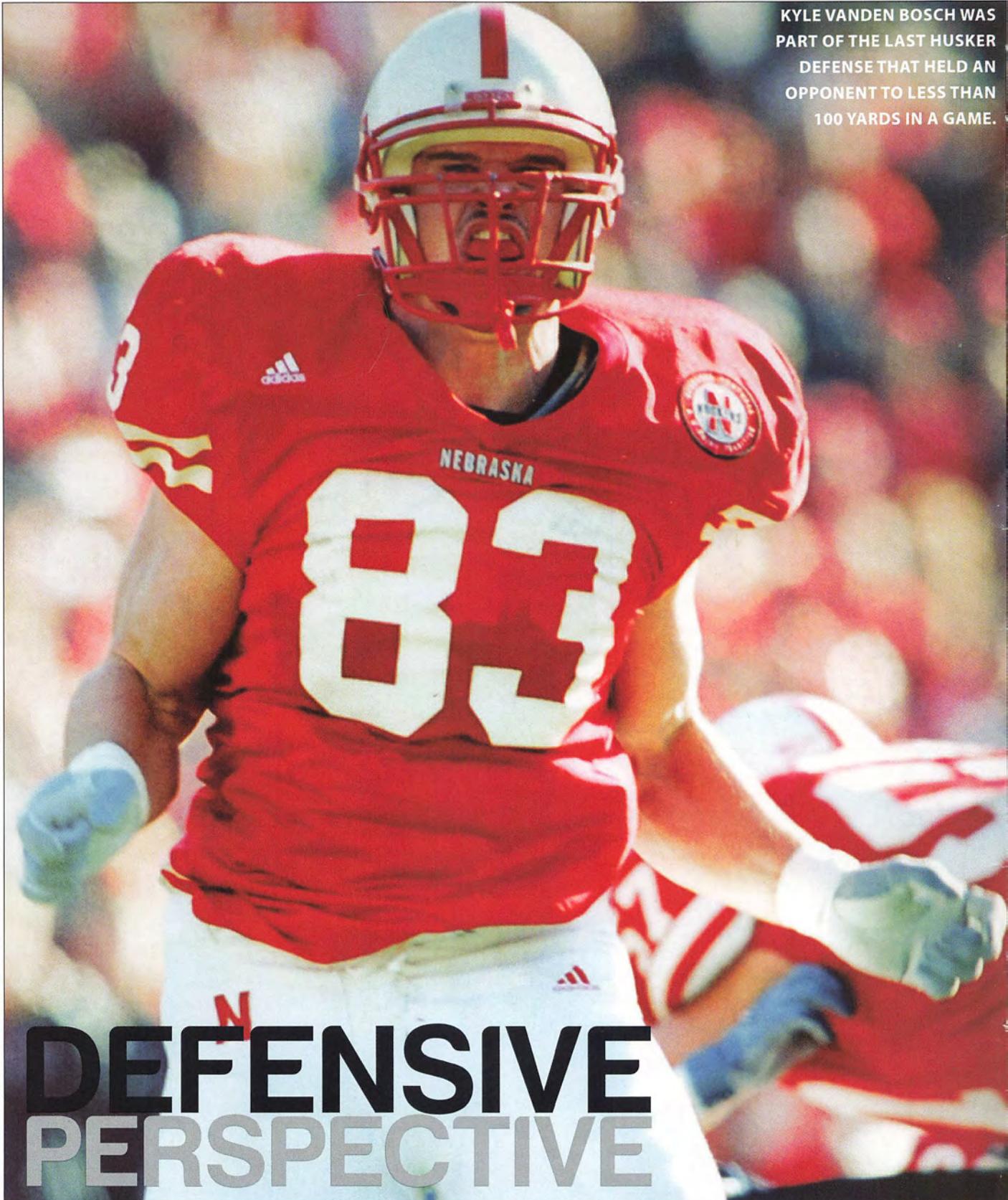
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KYLE VANDEN BOSCH WAS PART OF THE LAST HUSKER DEFENSE THAT HELD AN OPPONENT TO LESS THAN 100 YARDS IN A GAME.

**DEFENSIVE
PERSPECTIVE**

DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR CARL PELINI, after the defense allowed only 87 total yards in the Cornhuskers' 20-3 victory against Kansas: "When we got that last three-and-out, someone said I don't think I've ever been a part of holding a team under 100 yards."

How rare is it? In the previous 12 seasons it had happened only once, when Nebraska held Baylor to 84 yards (on 56 plays) in a 59-0 victory at Memorial Stadium.

In fact, since Frank Solich succeeded Tom Osborne as head coach, the Kansas game was only the 20th in which the Huskers had held the opposition to fewer than 200 yards of total offense.

Nebraska won all but one of those games. Auburn defeated the Huskers in the 2007 Cotton Bowl, despite being out-gained, 230 yards to 178 yards.

Defensive Gems, 100 Yards or Less

Baylor (59-0), 2000	56 plays, 84 yards	5 rush, 79 pass
Kansas (20-3), 2010	47 plays, 87 yards	72 rush, 15 pass

Defensive Gems, 200 Yards or Less

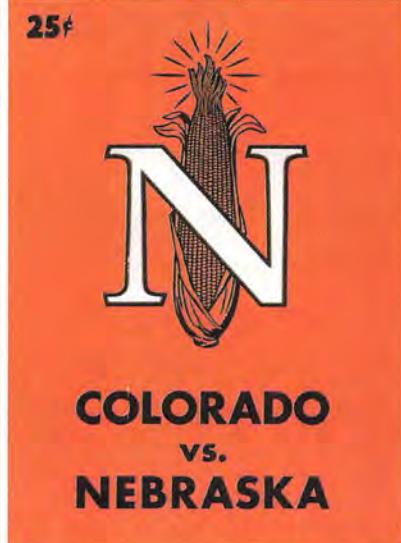
Arizona (33-0), 2009	51 plays, 109 yards	63 rush, 46 pass
Texas A&M (37-0), 1999	68-118	2, 116
Troy (56-0), 2006	51-140	48, 92
Maine (25-7), 2005	73-145	-6, 151
California (45-0), 1999	61-145	40, 105
Troy State (30-0), 2003	60-150	66, 84
Notre Dame (27-10), 2001	62-162	43, 119
Troy State (42-14), 2001	71-165	-25, 190
Missouri (20-13), 1998	57-166	77, 89
Iowa (42-7), 1999	56-169	57, 112
Michigan State (17-3), 2003	62-174	18, 156
Missouri (40-10), 1999	59-174	25, 149
Auburn (14-17), 2007	56-178	67, 111
Texas (22-6), 1999	72-178	6, 172
Oklahoma State (17-7), 2003	58-183	66, 84
Nevada (52-10), 2007	51-185	77, 108
TCU (21-7), 2001	50-186	56, 130
Baylor (48-7), 2001	76-187	29, 158

*Fewest Total Yards Allowed All-Time

South Dakota State (58-7), 1963	31	-17 rush, 48 pass
North Dakota (33-0), 1961	34	-8, 42
Kansas State (47-0), 1964	36	28, 8
Kansas State (31-0), 1946	47	-11, 58
Kansas (35-0), 1997	48	21, 27
Colorado (21-3), 1964	51	-3, 54
Iowa State (44-0), 1984	53	16, 37
Kansas (55-0), 1971	56	-42, 98
Kansas (56-0), 1972	63	32, 31
Minnesota (54-0), 1974	64	29, 35

[*Keep in mind how the game has changed, becoming more offense-oriented, with more plays being run and passing a much more significant factor]

HI'S TOP 5



ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGHS & A LOW

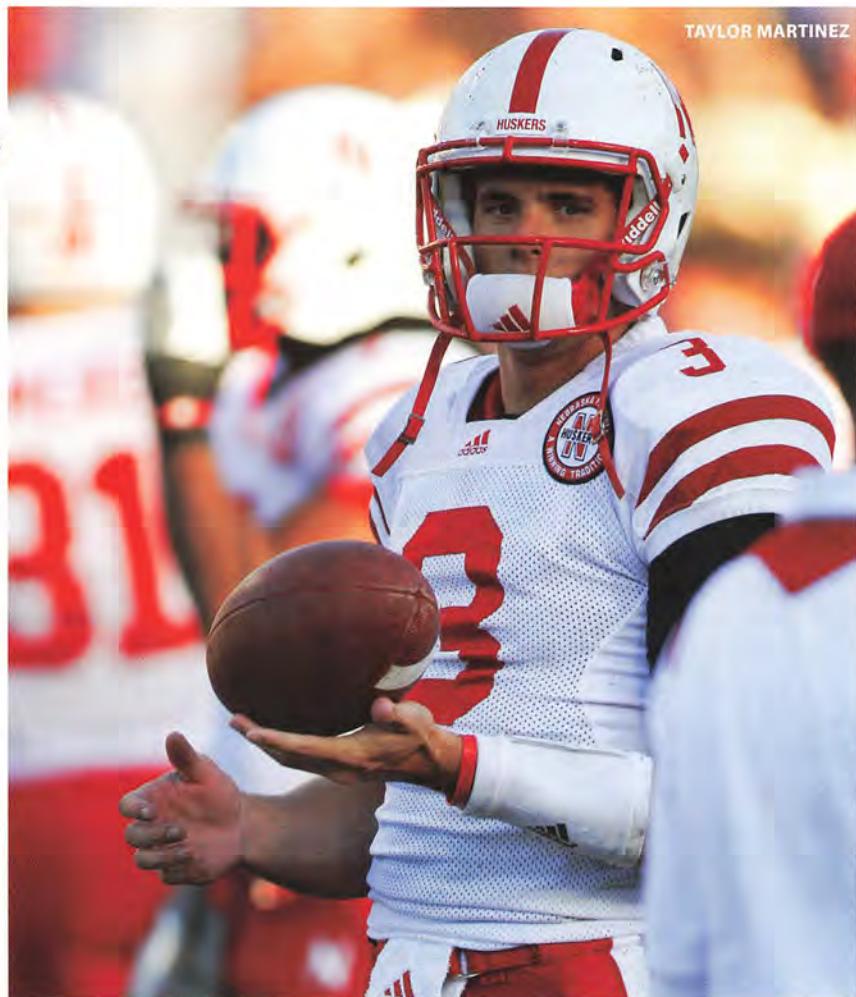
The Nebraska-Colorado series has been continuous since 1948 (program cover above), when Colorado joined the conference to make it the Big Seven. Though the Cornhuskers dominated from 1962, when Bob Devaney arrived, through 2000, winning 34-of-39 games with one tie, there are been several memorable games not included here. Both teams have been ranked in the AP Top 20 14 times when they've played:

- 1 NEBRASKA 24, COLORADO 7** (Lincoln)
Oct. 29, 1994; Brook Berringer's finest hour, against No. 2-ranked Buffs.
- 2 NEBRASKA 40, COLORADO 31** (Lincoln)
Nov. 28, 2008; Alex Henery's school-record field goal propels Bo Pelini's first team.
- 3 NEBRASKA 33, COLORADO 30, OT** (Boulder)
Nov. 26, 1999; CU's Jeremy Aldrich misses 37-yard field goal as regulation time expires.
- 4 NEBRASKA 52, COLORADO 7** (Lincoln)
Oct. 31, 1992; Teams tied at No. 8 in Associated Press poll (see Games Remembered).
- 5 COLORADO 62, NEBRASKA 36** (Boulder)
Nov. 23, 2001; Black Friday for the Huskers, No. 1 in the BCS rankings at the time.

SILENCE IS GOLDEN



Taylor Martinez's reluctance to talk to reporters is well-documented. And just about everyone has weighed in on the subject, including offensive coordinator Shawn Watson, earlier in the season: "That dude has major blinders on. You guys know he runs from you. He doesn't want to talk to you because he doesn't want any distractions. It's easy with him. He knows what he has to do. I've said it, and I know it sounds kind of boring, but he just wants the ball and wants to play. He's focused on the task at hand and what he needs to do."



TAYLOR MARTINEZ

PHOTO BY AARON BABCOCK

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9/18	at Washington, W, 56-21
9/25	SOUTH DAKOTA ST, W, 17-3
10/7	at Kansas State, W, 48-13
10/16	TEXAS, L, 13-20
10/23	at Oklahoma State, W, 51-41
10/30	MISSOURI, W, 31-17
11/6	at Iowa State, W, 31-30 (OT)
11/13	KANSAS, W, 20-3
11/20	at Texas A&M, 7 p.m. ABC or ESPN2
11/26	COLORADO, 2:30 p.m., ABC
12/4	Big 12 Championship

Hitting the sacks



So you think Jared Crick's production has dropped off this season, following the departure of Ndamukong Suh. Well, consider the junior defensive tackle had 6.5 sacks through the first 10 games this season, just three fewer than in his sophomore season – and a school-record 5 of those 9 sacks a year ago came in one game, against Baylor.

"I could care less about all the stats for myself," Crick said after adding two to his total against Kansas to tie Jared Tomich and Kenny Walker for 10th on the Huskers' career list, with 16.

"I totally, 100 percent, credit it (getting sacks) to getting our jobs done on first and second down. Then that gives us an opportunity to get our tails in the air and get after 'em," he said.

"And that's what we're good at."

SINGLE-SEASON SACKS

Trev Alberts, OLB (1993)	15
Jim Skow, DT (1985)	15
Ndamukong Suh, DT (2009)	12
Danny Noonan, MG (1986)	12
Demorrio Williams, WLB (2003)	11
Kenny Walker, DT (1990)	11
Broderick Thomas, OLB (1986)	11
Noonan, MG (1985)	11
Jared Tomich, OLB (1995)	10
Thomas, OLB (1988)	10
Tim Rother, DT (1987)	10
Neil Smith, DT (1986)	10
Jimmy Williams, DE (1981)	10

CAREER SACKS

Trev Alberts, OLB (1990-93)	29.5
Grant Wistrom, RE (1994-97)	26.5
Jim Skow, DT (1983-85)	26
Ndamukong Suh, DT (2005-09)	24
Danny Noonan, MG (1984-86)	24
Broderick Thomas, OLB (1985-88)	22.5
Adam Carriger, DE (2003-05)	20.5
Barry Turner, DE (2005-09)	17
Travis Hill, OLB (1989-92)	16.5
JARED CRICK, DT (2008-CURRENT)*	16
Jared Tomich, RE (1994-96)	16
Kenny Walker, DT (1988-90)	16

[*Through 10 games, 2010]

NEBRASKA BIG XII CHAMPIONSHIP PACKAGES

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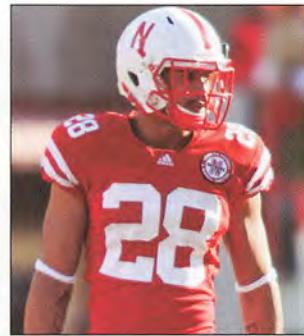
WELL RESPECTED

Though running back Rex Burkhead is just a sophomore, he's "very respected," junior wide receiver Brandon Kinnie said, "and down to earth, great to talk to and funny, everything."

Coach Bo Pelini agrees. "I think Rex became a team leader pretty quick around here," said Pelini. "He got voted onto the Unity Council and it's only his second year. Rex isn't a rah-rah guy. He's a guy who brings it every day. He's one of the guys who leads by example. When you have the kind of work ethic he has and you do things right on the field and off the field, and really embody all the things that you want your program to represent, I think he represents all those things."

"The guys respect that, and it draws respect quickly for a guy like him. I think that's what's happened. He's an exception young man in every regard."

SIDELINES



ULTIMATE COMPLIMENT

Senior Eric Hagg is an outstanding athlete, no question about that. But he's also "a real great guy," according to teammate Pierre Allen. "If I had a daughter, I'd let him date her."

A young man couldn't ask for a better endorsement than that.

MOGLIA MOVES ON

Joe Moglia, the 60-year-old former CEO of TD Ameritrade who has worked the Husker football program the last two seasons, was recently named the head coach of the United Football League's newest franchise, the Virginia Destroyers. Moglia was defensive coordinator at Dartmouth from 1981 to 1983. "He knows football and will do a great job with running the football team," said Bo Pelini.



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N

Minden



Kris Van Norman grew up with Nebraska football. His father, Ray, had season tickets, so young Kris attended his share of games, dreaming of playing for the Huskers but not necessarily believing the dream would come true.

He was the Class B Offensive Player of the Year on a state championship team as a senior in 1977, the year that another Minden High graduate, Greg Jorgensen was an All-Big Eight offensive guard and Cornhusker co-captain. By then, Nebraska had shown recruiting interest in him.

That was before the Internet, of course, and "I don't remember a lot of (area) guys getting a lot of national attention," Van Norman said. Minden "wasn't exactly where Max Emfinger was looking."

Emfinger was a prominent national recruiting analyst, based in Texas.

Even though schools often backed off when Nebraska showed an interest in in-state athletes, Van Norman still received his share of recruiting attention. But when coach Tom Osborne came to Minden, sat at the kitchen table with him, his family and his high school coach Jim Nolan, Van Norman knew where he would go, given the opportunity. And that

opportunity would come in the mail, a letter from Osborne offering a scholarship. "It was a surprise to me," said Van Norman.

People in Minden, an agricultural community, were "real supportive," Van Norman said. "In any rural town in Nebraska virtually 100 percent of the people were Nebraska fans."

The pressure he felt to represent his hometown was self-imposed.

"You put it on yourself to fulfill what the expectations were," he said.

Van Norman, a second-team Academic All-American as a senior, founded a real estate investment-development company in Houston, applying life principles he learned at Nebraska, playing for Osborne. That experience "influenced me, pretty much, in anything I've tried to do," he said.

So did his parents, Nolan and his hometown. "I wouldn't trade my upbringing," said Van Norman.

DID YOU KNOW?

- During the holiday season, Minden calls itself "The Christmas City. Since 1915, it has decorated the Kearney County Courthouse with colored lights during the holiday season.
- The Minden Opera House was built in 1891. It was renovated in 1999-2000 and remains the venue for theatrical productions, concerts and art shows.

► Minden is home to Pioneer Village, 28 buildings on 20 acres, "the largest private collection of Americana anywhere," according to the community's Web site.

► Nearly half a million sandhill cranes, 90 percent of the world's population, migrate through the Platte River Valley region during the spring, attracted visitors worldwide.

NU FOOTBALL LETTERMEN

- *Jerry Brown, FB (1955-56-57)
- *#Greg Jorgensen, OG (1975-76-77)
- John Nelson, OG (1987-88)
- **#William Schabacker, E (1951-52-53)
- Fred Thomsen, E (1920-22)
- Kris Van Norman, S (1980-81-82)

(*First-team all-conference, #Co-captain)

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2010 Nebraska Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Sat, Sept. 4	Western Kentucky	Memorial Stadium	6:00 pm
Sat, Sept. 11	Idaho	Memorial Stadium	11:30 am
Sat, Sept. 18	at Washington	Husky Stadium	2:30 pm
Sat, Sept. 25	South Dakota State	Memorial Stadium	6:00 pm
Thur, Oct. 7	at Kansas State	Snyder Stadium	6:30 pm
Sat, Oct. 16	Texas	Memorial Stadium	2:30 pm
Sat, Oct. 23	at Oklahoma State	Pickens Stadium	2:30 pm
Sat, Oct. 30	Missouri	Memorial Stadium	2:30 pm
Sat, Nov. 6	at Iowa State	Trice Stadium	2:30 pm
Sat, Nov. 13	Kansas	Memorial Stadium	6:00 pm
Sat, Nov. 20	at Texas A&M	Kyle Field	7:00 pm
Fri, Nov. 26	Colorado	Memorial Stadium	2:30 pm



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BIG TEN SCHOOLS: Indianapolis, Ind.

Championship City

Indianapolis, Lucas Oil Stadium to host first-ever Big Ten football championship

BY TERRY DOUGLASS



LUCAS OIL STADIUM

in Indianapolis will be the site of the first Big Ten Conference football championship, to be played on Dec. 3, 2011.

Opened in August 2008, Lucas Oil Stadium replaced the RCA Dome as the home for the NFL's Indianapolis Colts. The \$720 million facility features a FieldTurf playing surface and seats 63,000 for football, although it can be expanded to 70,000. It is scheduled to host Super Bowl XLVI in 2012 and is the annual site for the NFL Scouting Combine each February.

Lucas Oil Stadium was designed to have a historic field

house-like appearance, but on a much larger scale. It houses 137 luxury suites, including eight field suites, 12 super suites and a 200-seat "Quarterback Suite."

Fans will enjoy two Daktronics high-definition scoreboards – each 97 feet wide and 53 feet tall. The facility has a retractable roof that divides lengthwise into two retractable panels and takes nine minutes to open and 12 minutes to close using a system of 32 cables.

There's also a large windowed wall at the end of Lucas Oil Stadium, which is 244 feet by 88 feet. The north retractable window provides a view of downtown Indianapolis.



HEAD COACH

Resume: Jim Delany has served as the Big Ten Conference commissioner since

1989. He is credited with the creation of the Big Ten TV network, the expansion of the conference to 12 teams and guaranteeing teams in the league spots in seven different bowl games.

DON'T MISS

Indianapolis' population is approximately 800,000, making it the largest city in Indiana and the 14th-largest city in the United States.

Tourism has developed into a vital part of the Indianapolis economy in recent years. The city hosts numerous conventions and sporting events, including the Indianapolis 500 and Brickyard 400 auto races and it has also been the site for the men's and women's NCAA basketball tournaments.

Indianapolis is a 635-mile drive from Lincoln. One-stop flights from Lincoln and Omaha to Indianapolis are available, typically with a layover in Chicago or Milwaukee.

Visitors won't want to miss the Cultural Trail, which is touted as a "world-class" urban bike and pedestrian path that connects the city's five downtown cultural districts.

5 THINGS TO KNOW

The Big Ten is the oldest Division I athletic conference in the United States. It's also the only NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision conference to have all of its members affiliated with the Association of American Universities.

With the addition of Penn State in 1990, the Big Ten Conference expanded to 11 teams. Although the Big Ten didn't change its name, a hidden "11" appears in the negative space of the conference's logo.

Original conference members in 1896 included Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Northwestern, Purdue, Wisconsin and the University of Chicago, which dropped out in 1946. Indiana and Iowa joined in 1899, Ohio State in 1912, Michigan State in 1950 and Penn State in 1990.

Nebraska applied for membership in the Big Ten Conference on June 11, 2010, and was approved unanimously. Set to be a 12-team conference in 2011, it will continue to be called the Big Ten.

The Big Ten announced on Sept. 1 that Nebraska will be in a division with Northwestern, Michigan State, Michigan, Iowa and Minnesota. The other division will be Illinois, Indiana, Ohio State, Penn State, Purdue and Wisconsin.



STATE OF THE HUSKERS

BY CURT MCKEEVER

“Psychotic” approach benefits defense

GIVEN THAT HIS defense was coming off a performance in which it limited Kansas to 87 yards, Carl Pelini's answer was somewhat predictable.

Have you seen this defense improve sufficiently?

Nebraska's defensive coordinator indicated that, indeed, he had witnessed such progress. But just in case his group might interpret his observation as a special compliment, he added a qualifier.

“That should happen every year,” Pelini said. “That's our job to get us better each week. And, you know, we're pretty exact. We ask them to think a lot, and so the more things they see throughout the season, the more seasoning they get, the better they're going to be.”

Before the season, head coach Bo Pelini offered that the Huskers could end up being better than the 2009 unit that gave up the lowest scoring average in the nation. Statistically, they aren't quite at that level, but one thing the 2010 outfit might do better is adjusting on the run.

Missouri, Iowa State and Kansas all showed looks that they hadn't before playing Nebraska, but none of those teams kept the Huskers fooled.

“That's what I'm most proud of, the way they've been able to take sideline

adjustments,” Carl Pelini said.

Of course, that begs for another question.

Is Nebraska's defensive system complex or simple to learn?

Pelini thinks it's complex enough to where it can be overwhelming until players advance from memorization to applying concepts.

“I know we say that all the time, but we teach concepts and you apply them in different ways,” he said. And “each week we mix and match which concepts we use together. This coverage with this front, or these run fits with this coverage changes. But ultimately, the more you do that, the more you ask your kids to think, the smarter football players they become. And they are talking a ton.

“If I was a new coach or a new player, I would look at what we do and say 'Oh my god, how am I ever going to learn that?' But then when you start to think in terms of groupings and concepts, you begin to understand it's not as difficult as you think.”

It's still a far cry from simply lining up players and relying on their athletic ability. Linebackers are constantly making calls that might mean one thing against Missouri and another against Kansas.

“That's where I think it becomes difficult in the transition,” Pelini added.

“And honestly, that's where a guy like Lavonte (David) kind of amazes me, because he's been able to make that transformation so fast (as a first-year player). He studies. He works at it. And not just him. Our other guys, they're in the facility, they've got the game plan in their hands, both the scouting reports in their hands, and they're studying.

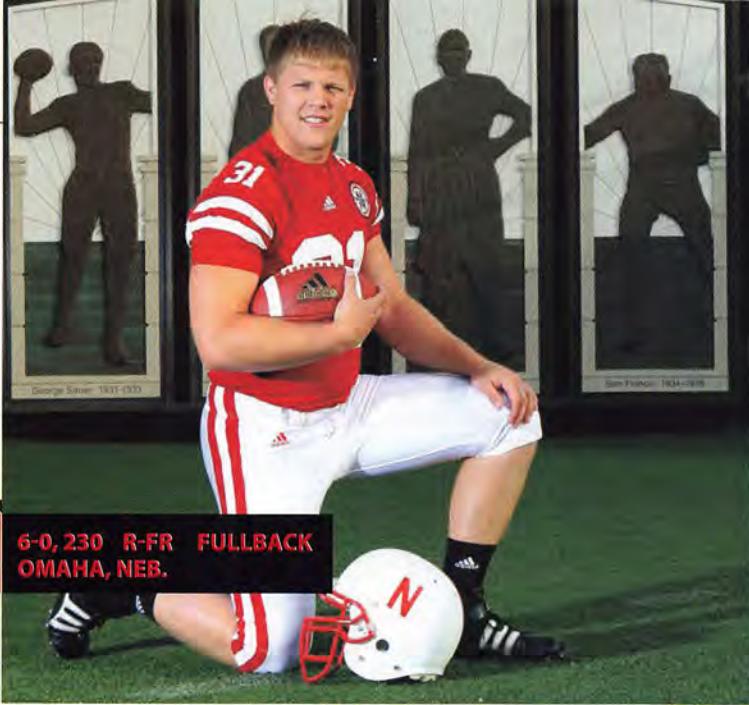
“I walked into the locker room before the Kansas game and every one of our kids had their reminders out. They were, 'Just one more time. Just one more time.' It's good to see, because it doesn't happen everywhere.”

Sounds like Pelini has got this bunch thinking a lot like a certain defensive coordinator.

“I coach out of fear all the time,” he said. “Every time you call a defense, you think of the worst-case scenario every time you prepare. I'm psychotic like that. I always go into a game thinking they're going to score a hundred on us.”

Is that points, coach? Or yards?

“I've never been involved in anything even close to that,” Pelini said about the yardage Nebraska allowed in its 20-3 win against Kansas. “These days in college football, teams are hanging up 700 yards, so to hold a team to 200 or 300 is considered a good defensive game. To hold a team to 87 yards is unbelievable.” **N**



FIVE QUESTIONS

C.J. Zimmerer

The Fullback Takes Five Questions Head On

WHEN C.J. ZIMMERER WAS CONSIDERING COLLEGES and generating interest from football teams in the Midwest, he didn't have far to go to seek input on Nebraska.

His football coach at Omaha Gross High school, Tim Johnk, played for the Huskers. A Schuyler, Neb., native, Johnk played fullback and lettered from 1989-91. Zimmerer, a redshirted freshman, is also a fullback.

During the recruiting process, Johnk admitted to Zimmerer he'd be a little biased toward Nebraska.

"He wanted me to come here, but he told me to definitely check out all my options, and make sure I make the

right decision for me and not for everybody else," Zimmerer said. "He had good advice about the academics and all of that stuff. He knew that's an important part. That was definitely some good advice."

Zimmerer, born and raised in Omaha, has always followed Nebraska and understood the program's history. He said Johnk never really talked about his time with the Huskers unless asked.

"He had some great stories about playing under the great tradition here and all that good stuff," Zimmerer said. "He always had the good

advice. He was a really good coach. I don't think I would've made it anywhere, where I am today, without his coaching and my other coaches."

1 HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED Who was your favorite Husker growing up?

C.J. ZIMMERER I was always a Blackshirts fan, the Peter brothers, Grant Wistrom, players like that. I played defense in high school, too, so it's not like I was solely an offensive fan.

2 HI What does C.J. stand for, and do you ever get called by your full name?

ZIMMERER Christopher James, and no, not even Grandma calls me that. I think I was born C.J. and they might have put some names to go with it.

3 HI What do you like to do outside of football?

ZIMMERER I like fishing. I don't get to do that much with football all the time.

4 HI Have you declared a major yet?

ZIMMERER I just recently declared criminal justice. I'm not really sure what I want to do, but I'm thinking about something in corrections or maybe the FBI. If that doesn't pan out, I could always see myself being a cop.

5 HI How often do you hear questions about the fullback carrying the football?

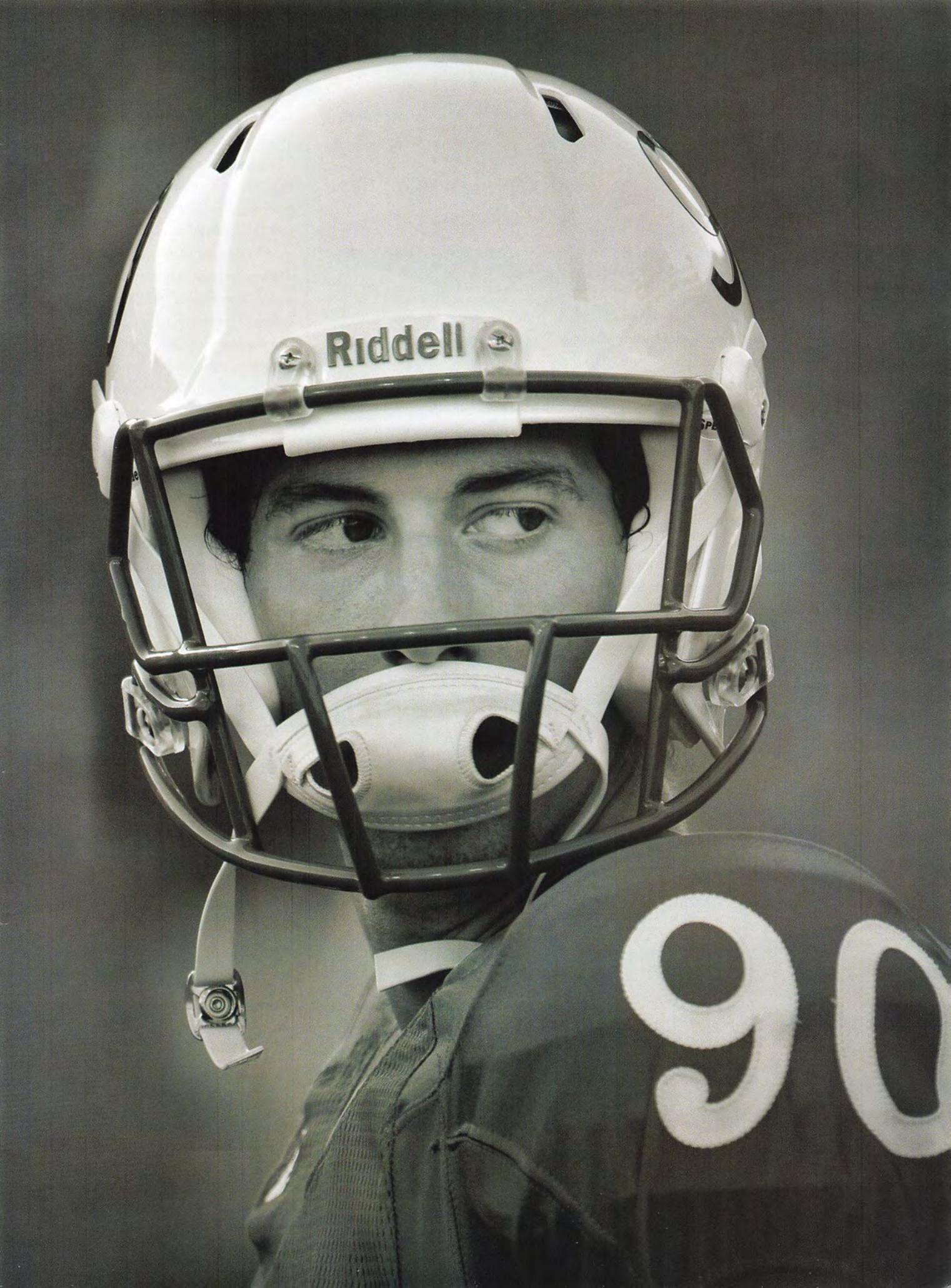
ZIMMERER That's probably the No. 1 question I get, "Where's the fullback? When are you going to get the ball?" It's not a big deal. You're part of a team. You're doing your job. My job is to block, so you've just got to take that on and hit that head on.



PLACEKICKER
**ALEX
HENERY**

THE ICE MAN

BY MATT FULKS



Riddell

90

THERE'S A GREAT LINE IN THE MOVIE "COOL HAND LUKE." NOT TO SPOIL THE MOVIE — ALTHOUGH IT IS MORE THAN 40 YEARS OLD — BUT AT ONE POINT, GEORGE KENNEDY'S CHARACTER, DRAGLINE, IS TALKING ABOUT LUKE.

"If they didn't know it 'fore, they could tell right then that they weren't gonna beat him," Dragline says. At the end of the quote he adds, "He's a natural-born world-shaker."

That pretty much describes Nebraska senior kicker-punter Alex Henery. The quote certainly could be used as he lined up for the kick that seems to define his collegiate career. You know the one. The day after Thanksgiving two years ago at Memorial Stadium. Against Colorado. With a 7-4 record, it was a key moment in the final regular-season game of Bo Pelini's first year as Nebraska head coach.

With the ball about to be placed at the bottom corner of the "N" at midfield by holder Jake Wesch with less than 2 minutes in the game, it also was a big test for the sophomore Henery.

Pelini asks Henery if he thinks

he can make it. At first, Henery has his personal doubts.

About 440 miles to the south and east, former Nebraska kicker Josh Brown, now kicking for the St. Louis Rams after five years with the Seattle Seahawks, imagined what was going through Henery's mind as he watched the game unfold with 18 or 19 family members at his home near St. Louis.

Same for Kris Brown, Josh Brown's predecessor at Nebraska. Kris, the most prolific scorer in Husker history, was watching Henery's historic 57-yard attempt from his home in the Houston area.

The Browns (no relation, by the way) should know. Josh, who hit a 51-yard attempt in the 2000 Alamo Bowl game against Northwestern, connected on a 58-yarder at Lambeau Field against the Green

Bay Packers during his rookie season.

Kris, who kicked two field goals of longer than 50 yards while playing for the Huskers in 1995-98, set an NFL record in 2007 with three field goals of at least 54 yards. In the same game.

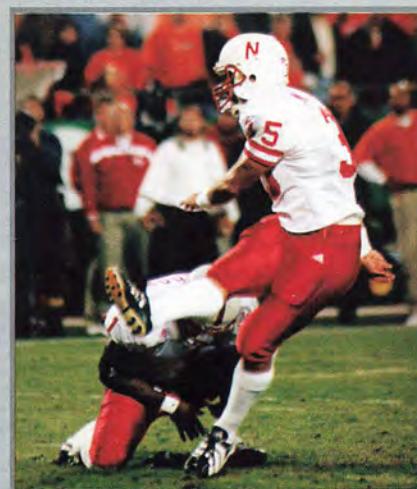
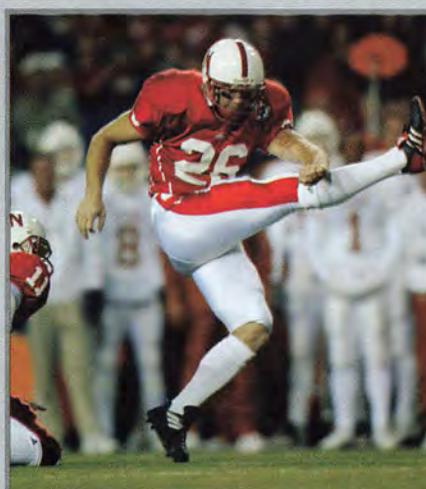
"I was thinking that he just needed to hit it solid," said Kris Brown. "You have to hit it right on from that distance. The contact on the ball has to be pure. Alex has the leg strength to do it. He doesn't have to swing out of his shoes. That's not him. He just needs to make good contact. Give yourself a chance and make solid contact and see what happens."

The Browns each had confidence that Henery could knock the ball through from that distance. Pelini would find out soon enough if he would regret giving Henery the chance to kick it from the 47-yard line.

Little did anyone know that one moment would help propel Henery into the Husker record books, and put him on the radar for both the Ray Guy Award, given to the nation's top punter, and the Lou Groza Award, which goes to the nation's best field-goal kicker.

"I'm a huge fan of Alex's,"

THE
BROWN
LEGACY
JOSH BROWN
& KRIS
BROWN HAVE
GONE ON TO
LENGTHY NFL
CAREERS.



said Kris Brown. "When I've come back and visited with him on a couple occasions, I've been very proud of what he's accomplished. I don't think people realize how good he's been and what he's been able to do. It's been overlooked and it's a shame that not as many people nationally recognize what he's been able to do."

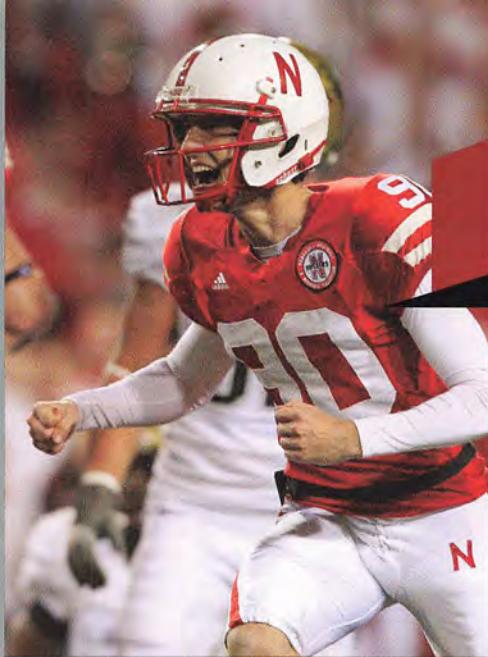
Heading into his last home game as a Husker, Alex Henery is second on Nebraska's career scoring list, behind Kris Brown's all-time mark of 388 points. (Henery passed Eric Crouch for second on the list with eight points against Kansas.)

"It's cool to be mentioned with guys like Kris Brown," Henery said during a press conference in October. "They're kicking on Sundays, so it's cool to be up there (on the list) with them."

Although he's near the head of the class, Henery is the next name in a long line of good kickers at Nebraska: Paul Rogers in the 1960s, Rich Sanger and Billy Todd in the '70s, Kevin Seibel and Dale Klein in the '80s, and Byron Bennett in the '90s.

But many would contend that the two best in school history, prior to Henery, are Kris Brown and Josh Brown. Kris basically came in after Bennett. Then, Josh redshirted during Kris's senior season. Unlike other Nebraska kickers before them, both Browns have gone on to long careers in the NFL.

"I put Kris on a pedestal because he had done so much before I was there," says Josh Brown. "I learned a lot from him about humility."



"HE (ALEX) DOESN'T HAVE TO SWING OUT OF HIS SHOES. THAT'S NOT HIM." – KRIS BROWN 13-YEAR VETERAN

Josh Brown. Since reaching the NFL with Seattle in 2003, Josh has missed only one extra-point attempt, and has hit field goals of at least 54 yards in each season (except in 2010, so far).

Both Browns have numbers that keep them in the league. Today's good kickers are automatic at less than 50 yards. The really good ones are accurate at more than 50 yards, and will have a coach who's confident in attempting a field goal when the ball is well beyond the 40. Funny, but the kickers who survive aren't concerned about distance.

"When you step onto the field, you're not thinking about the situation of the game or the results or the distance," Kris Brown said. "You're just locked in and focused on performing and getting in a position mentally where you need to be to go out and execute. I think you have to, through experience, figure out your routine and methodology. Then you don't think about the circumstances of the game. You have to get in your place mentally to perform."

"Your technique is important, but to get where Alex is at, or where Josh and I are at, (kicking) is a totally mental position."

Although Bo Pelini is quick to point out that Henery, who passed up a soccer scholarship at Creighton to try to walk on the Nebraska football team, is, for the most part, a self-taught kicker. It doesn't hurt,

Kris was a very humble person who didn't expect a lot. He also taught me a lot about how to work appropriately for the game, and not over-kick and not put myself where I'd be in a bad state mentally come game time.

"And he was a very detailed person. I took that from him. You have to pay attention to the small details. You have to understand that you're not going to get the same kind of attention as the quarterbacks and running backs, but you have to set your ego to the side and just do what you're being asked to do. He was very good for me at the time."

Kris Brown is in his 12th NFL season. Drafted by the Pittsburgh Steelers in 1999, Brown spent the majority of his pro career with the Houston Texans, 2002-09. He signed in October with the San Diego Chargers.

Besides scoring more career points than any other football player in Husker history, while at Nebraska, Kris hit two field goals of at least 50 yards — somewhat of a benchmark for measuring kickers — with his longest at 51. In the NFL, he's hit one from 57 and one from 56.

though, to have a heritage that includes Kris Brown and Josh Brown.

"We've been fortunate here to have kickers like the Browns, who kick in the NFL and are kicking around here in the off-season," said Pelini. "All those things help a guy. The more input you get, the more knowledge you get, the better you get. I don't know how technical Alex is; I just think he goes out there and says, 'I'm going to make it.' He's a pretty special guy."

A long leg, a short memory and thick skin. Those might be the three most important characteristics for a kicker, especially the successful ones at the collegiate and professional levels.

A long leg goes without saying. But a short memory and thick skin? Place-kickers will miss field goals. They will hit obvious game-winning attempts, and they'll miss with the game on the line. They'll also miss, however, early in a game at a seemingly non-crucial time, only to see their team lose by one or two points.

Josh Brown remembers one of those. It was in 2000, his sophomore season. In the first quarter of the game at Kansas State, he missed from 33 yards. The Huskers lost that game, 29-28.

"I can remember that vividly to this day," Josh Brown says, as if he's thought about that experience a hundred times or so. "We knew it was going to be a tight game, so I felt that miss was going to have a big impact on the game. Obviously it did. Short memory is a key to

being a long-lasting kicker because you can talk yourself into and out of bad situations all the time.

"You have to handle it internally and learn not to fight back when people do blame you for losing a game. You have to defend yourself to yourself. You have to let yourself know after a miss that, hey, I didn't do my job right there but when I have the opportunity again, I'm going to be successful."

The next week, however, at home against Colorado, coach Frank Solich sent Josh to attempt a game-winning 29-yarder with less than a minute remaining in the game. He drilled it.

"The pressure of trying to kick the game-winner wasn't huge," said Josh Brown. "The pressure came because I was kicking only 50 percent that year. That was a great learning experience for me."

As trite as it might sound, the job of kicker also requires nerves of steel. Sure, on the road. But also at home, where the cheers can be deafening when you do something good, and leave the stadium feeling

empty when you fail.

Darin Erstad, who's best known around the nation as a former Major League Baseball player, was the punter and long-range field-goal kicker for coach Tom Osborne during the 1994 season. He laughs when asked about dealing with the pressure or nerves of kicking, especially in front of more than 75,000 rabid fans wearing red.

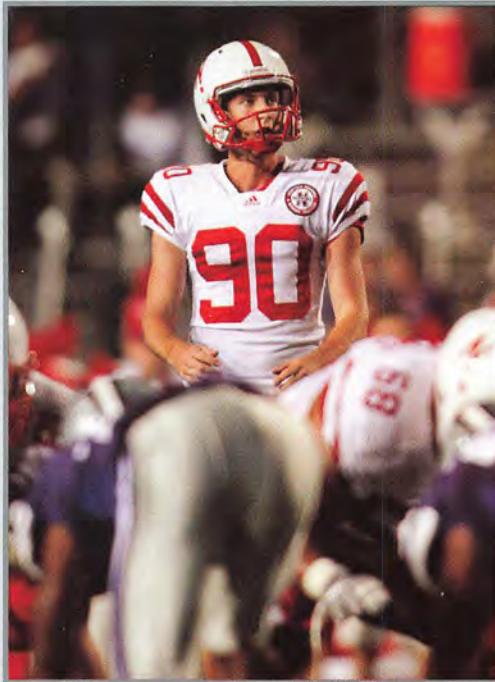
"I was probably too young to realize if there was any pressure," said Erstad, who's now an assistant coach for the Nebraska baseball team.

"In fact, I just know that walking out of that tunnel and onto that field at Lincoln, I felt like I could fly. I felt like I was invincible with the crowd there. So I never felt any pressure playing at home."

Oh, one other important and overlooked aspect of kicking. By rule, an NCAA football is 10 7/8 to 11 7/16 inches long and has a circumference of 20 3/4 to 21 1/4 inches around. When you think about it, factoring in the ball's small surface area, not to mention the angle at which the holder is leaning the ball, plus the weather and field conditions, a kicker doesn't have a lot of room for error.

A long leg. A short memory. Thick skin. Those happen to be Henery's characteristics. Cool Hand Luke.

"Every day I work on being consistent," he said. "If I miss one, I see what I did wrong and fix it for next time. ... When I hit a ball, I know exactly what I did wrong. You can tell by the spin of the ball a lot of times. Watch a pro kicker and his ball is going end over end,



pretty much every time. If you get a little right to left on it, you know you brought your toe up or fell off. So, when I see the ball spin, I can usually tell what I did wrong."

He hasn't been "wrong" very often.

"Watching Alex the last couple of years, he's been absolutely stone cold," said Josh Brown. "The kid's unwavering. I know when things haven't worked out for him on a kick, he's come right back and kept kicking. As a kicker, you can watch other kickers and pick up a lot of things, and in Alex I can tell that he hasn't changed anything. He doesn't do things differently when he misses. That says a lot about him and his ability."

As a first-year coach in 2008, albeit at the end of the season, Bo Pelini didn't exactly know what he had in Alex Henery when he contemplated a 57-yarder against Colorado. Fifty-seven yards. That's something any coach needs to ponder, especially with a sophomore kicker. The decision, though, became easier.

"(Henery) came up to me and said, 'I got it,'" Pelini remembers of the only three words he needed to hear before deciding to send out the field-goal unit.

A nerve-bending situation for both.

"I learned a lot about his fortitude at that Colorado game," Pelini added. "What I really learned about him was that in a situation like that, he has the same ho-hum attitude that he always has. He's really calm and he has a really good knack for directing his focus and being calm and going out and approaching every situation the same way. There aren't a lot of people who can do that. He's just one of those guys."

As every Nebraska fan knows, Henery nailed that 57-yard attempt. It was the longest kick in Nebraska history. More importantly at the time, it gave the Huskers a 2-point lead with 1 minute, 43 seconds remaining in regulation.

In Houston, Kris Brown jumped up so high, he says, as the ball floated through the uprights that day that he hit his head on the ceiling. Josh Brown says it got so loud at his

house in the St. Louis suburb of Creve Coeur that the whole house shook.

It's probably unfair to point to that one kick to define Henery's career. Sure, it might've been a defining moment in his Nebraska career, but he'll likely have plenty more chances after this season — on Sundays, of course.

"I think about it, yeah," Henery said of a possible future in the NFL, "but we have a season here. If I just take care of my job, things will fall into place. It's something you can't let distract you from what you have going."

That is, after getting through the end of this season, including his last home game against Colorado.

For Kris Brown, his final game at home against Colorado turned out to be much more emotional than he expected. In the days leading up to that game in 1998, he thought it'd be "just another game." He couldn't have been more wrong.

"It hits you as you're walking down the tunnel for the last time — this is the last time I'll be doing this," he said. "We were fortunate to go out and beat Colorado that game and leave a good feeling walking off that field for the last time."

"So, I would tell Alex to savor every moment," Kris Brown added when asked what advice he'd give Henery. "Savor the moment he's going to experience at Memorial Stadium, and savor the game. Try to absorb it all in. When it's all said and done, this is going to be the game that he'll always remember."

Regardless of that outcome, he'll be remembered for years to come.

"Alex has done a phenomenal job of upholding the high standard of kicking at Nebraska that Kris Brown and some of those other guys set," said Josh Brown. "He's going to have a good career in the National Football League. There's really not a lot you can tell the kid — he has a great head on his shoulders."





by Terry Douglass

TURNING POINT

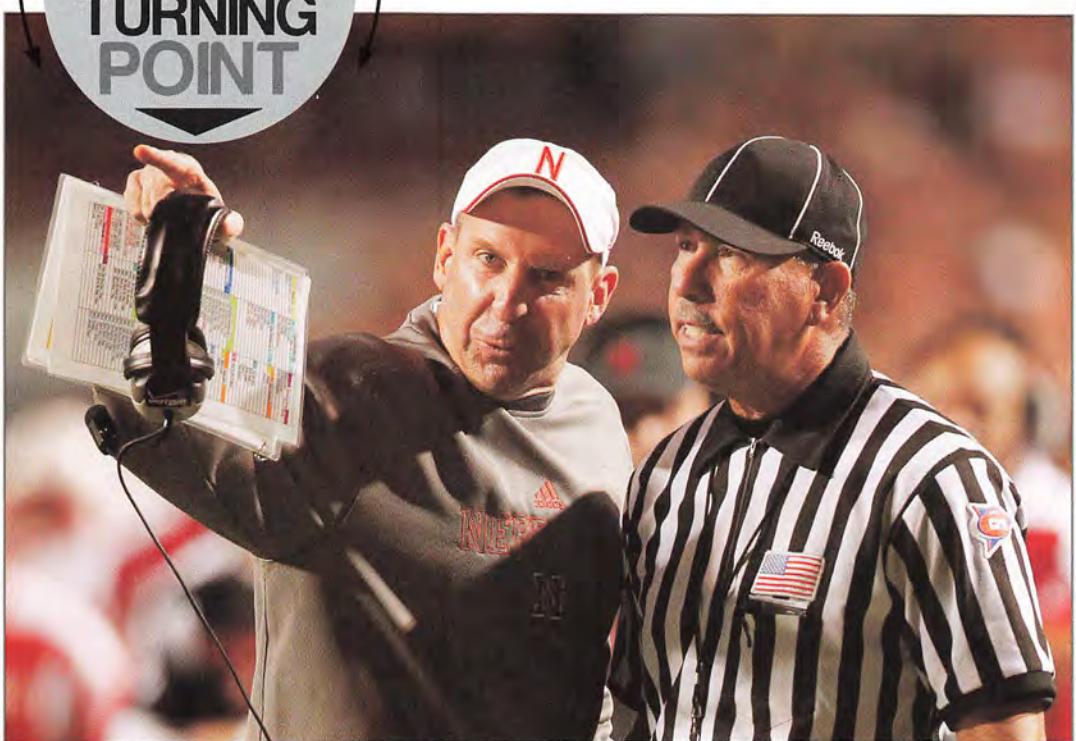


PHOTO BY SCOTT BRUHN

ONE FLAG LOOMS LARGER

AMONG THE MYRIAD of penalties called on Nebraska during its 9-6 loss at Texas A&M, one flag loomed larger than the rest.

With the Aggies facing a crucial third-and-11 situation at the Cornhuskers' 49-yard line, Nebraska safety Courtney Osborne came free on a blitz and hit quarterback Ryan Tannehill, whose pass attempt fell incomplete. However, Osborne was flagged for a roughing-the-passer penalty, giving Texas A&M an automatic first down at the NU 35.

Texas A&M running back Cyrus Gray then carried the ball on five consecutive plays, including an 18-yard run to the Nebraska 10 to set up Randy Bullock's game-winning 19-yard field goal with 3:02 remaining.

"The penalty hurt us, obviously," Nebraska coach Bo Pelini said of the roughing call on Osborne. "We were off the field right there."

Penalties were a theme throughout for Nebraska. The Cornhuskers were penalized a school-record 16 times for 145 yards – also an all-time program worst.

Meanwhile, Texas A&M was penalized twice for 10 yards. The Aggies appeared to be flagged for a third penalty for pass interference

on a third-and-7 play at the A&M 12 with 8 1/2 minutes to play, but the yellow marker was waved off and Nebraska had to settle for a 29-yard Alex Henery field goal, tying the score 6-6.

"No comment – next question," Pelini said when asked about the disparity in penalties. "I'm not talking about penalties. You all watched the game."

Texas A&M coach Mike Sherman said penalties were certainly a factor.

"Whenever you can pick up yards without stopping the football, it definitely gives you hope," Sherman said. "We showed penalty tapes all week long to our guys and we told them we had to cut them out and we wouldn't win this type of game with penalties."

Nebraska's bench was even flagged for an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty early in the fourth quarter after Nebraska's Eric Martin was hit with his second personal-foul penalty of the game on the Huskers' kickoff return unit.

"Like I said, I'm not talking about the penalties," Pelini told media members when asked about the validity of all the penalties. "You guys all watched the game. You guys make your own deduction." ■

GameNotes



PHOTO BY SCOTT BRUHN

INJURED AGAIN

The health of Nebraska quarterback Taylor Martinez will continue to be a hot topic after he was hurt for the second time in four games in a 9-6 loss at Texas A&M.

The injury occurred on the first play of Nebraska's third possession when Martinez got tangled up with one of his offensive linemen and limped off the field after a 2-yard loss with an apparent lower-leg problem. Martinez, who had returned to the starting lineup against Kansas after missing the majority of the previous 1 1/2 games with an ankle injury, had 24 yards on his first six carries and completed 4-of-5 pass attempts for 43 yards to that point.

Late in the first half, ABC TV cameras captured Nebraska coach Bo Pelini having an intense one-way conversation with Martinez on the sideline, which Pelini later said had nothing to do with

Martinez's injury. Martinez returned as Nebraska's starting quarterback in the second half and finished 11-of-17 passing for 107 yards with an interception. Coming into the game with 957 yards and 12 touchdowns rushing, the redshirt freshman carried 11 times for 17 yards.

Pelini said Martinez's status for the regular-season finale against Colorado is unknown.

"It's too early to tell," Pelini said. "We'll see. He finished the game fine, so I expect him to be fine for next Friday."

STILL STRUGGLING

The Cornhuskers only managed a pair of Alex Henery field goals and were limited to 306 total yards, including 142 rushing against the Aggies. Nebraska has scored a combined 26 points in its last two games and has gone six quarters without a touchdown, dating

back to the second period of its 20-3 win over Kansas on Nov. 13.

"I'm disappointed. We didn't execute well enough, offensively, today," Nebraska coach Bo Pelini said.

While a healthy Martinez played a key role in Nebraska's offensive success earlier in the season, Pelini said the Huskers still need to be able to produce points -- no matter who is playing quarterback. Cody Green came on in relief of Martinez and played the remainder of the first half. Green, who started in place of the injured Martinez in Nebraska's 31-30 overtime victory at Iowa State on Nov. 6, was 6-of-11 passing for 57 yards and an interception and rushed three times for 1 yard, all in the first half.

"He's not the only player out there," Pelini said of Martinez. "We didn't play well, offensively. It was a disappointment."

Game Notes

PHOTO BY SCOTT BRUHN



Not Good Enough

Good, but not quite good enough was the assessment of Nebraska's defensive performance by head coach Bo Pelini following the 9-6 loss at Texas A&M.

Texas A&M came into the game averaging 34.9 points during its four-game winning streak. The Huskies held the Aggies to three field goals and 310 yards of total offense.

"I thought we played well, defensively, for the most part," Pelini said. "We made some mistakes, but to hold them to (nine) points.

NORTH TITLE ON HOLD

Nebraska's return trip to the Big 12 Conference championship game was put on hold thanks to the loss at Texas A&M.

Needing one more victory to wrap up the North Division title and clinch a spot in for the Dec. 4 game in Dallas, the Cornhuskers came up short. With Missouri's 14-0 win at Iowa State on Saturday, Nebraska (9-2, 5-2 Big 12) now needs to beat Colorado at home in Friday's regular-season finale to assure its return to the Big 12 title game.

PLAYERS MUZZLED

As was the case following Nebraska's 62-28 loss at Oklahoma in 2008, Nebraska coach Bo Pelini opted not to make his players available for post-game media interviews.

"We're moving on to Colorado," Pelini said when asked for an explanation. "That's where our sole focus is. You don't need to talk to the players tonight."

"We needed to hold them to three and we didn't do it."

Flourishing since replacing Big 12 preseason offensive player of the year Jerrod Johnson at quarterback, Texas A&M's Ryan Tannehill was held in check. He completed 19-of-29 pass attempts for 172 yards and the Huskers sacked him three times.

Running back Cyrus Gray finished with 26 carries for 137 yards, but more importantly, A&M didn't commit a turnover.

With his team entertaining very slim hopes of reaching the BCS national championship game prior to the loss, Pelini said he told his team after the loss that the A&M game is "irrelevant."

"In the end, we still control our own destiny," Pelini said. "(If) we take care of business next Friday, we'll give ourselves a chance at the league championship. That's our main focus anyway."

ELECTRIC ATMOSPHERE

Texas A&M coach Mike Sherman credited a Kyle Field record crowd of 90,079 for both inspiring the Aggies and causing Nebraska difficulties with communication. A national collegiate record 31,005 student tickets were sold and 20,000 white "12th Man" towels were distributed to fans for the senior night game, adding to the raucous atmosphere.

"It was a very emotional win and a very hard-fought battle," Sherman said.

UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT

Following the game, several employees of the TexAgs.com, claimed that Nebraska defensive coordinator Carl Pelini threw one of their cameras to the ground just after the final seconds ticked off the clock.

TexAgs.com videographer Brandon Jones said in an interview with Huskers Illustrated that he ran out onto the field to capture the postgame celebration when he began filming Pelini.

"He was probably 10 feet from me. He saw (the camera) and turned and took three or four steps to get to me," Jones said of Pelini. "He grabbed the camera and, of course, I have the camera, too. We're eye to eye and I say, "What are you doing?"

Jones said Pelini then broke off the eye piece of his camera and threw it into the ground before throwing the camera to the ground and storming off. Jones said there was no permanent damage to the camera.

WORTH NOTING

- The loss at Texas A&M snapped Nebraska's nine-game win streak in the month of November. The setback also broke Nebraska's eight-game road winning streak overall and in Big 12 play.

- Nebraska senior I-back Roy Helu Jr. rushed nine times for 52 yards against the Aggies. Helu, who didn't have a rushing attempt in the fourth quarter, moved his season total to 1,043 yards.

- Game captains for the Huskers at Texas A&M were senior guard Keith Williams, junior safety Austin Cassidy, junior cornerback Alfonzo Dennard and senior kicker Adi Kunalic.



ROY HELU JR. STIFF ARMS TEXAS A&M LINEBACKER SEAN PORTER ON HIS WAY TO A 31-YARD RUN. PHOTO BY AARON BABCOCK

Home or Away. Either way you're covered.



NEBRASKA



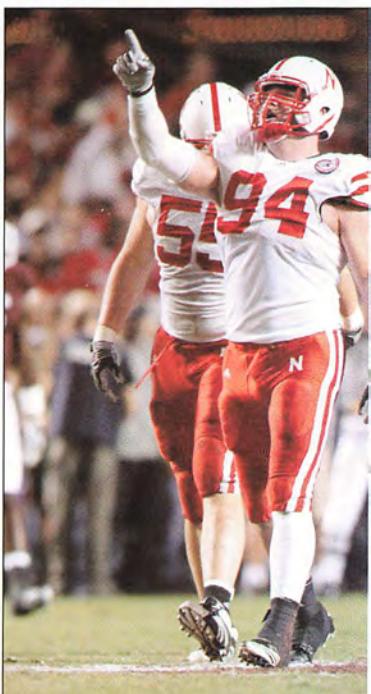
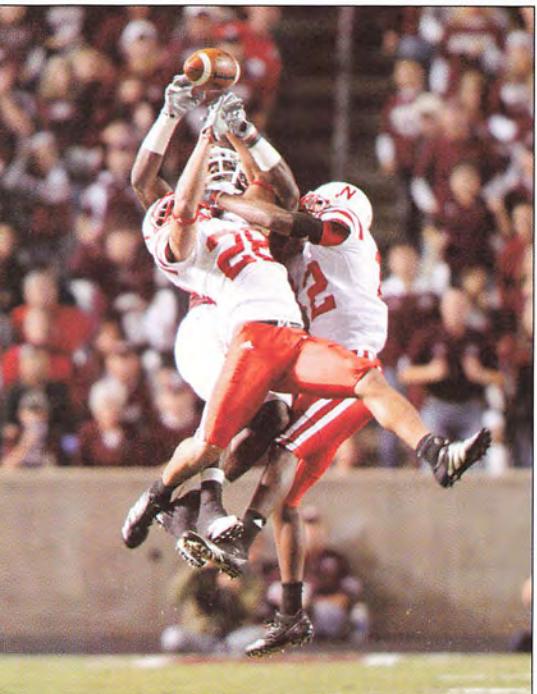
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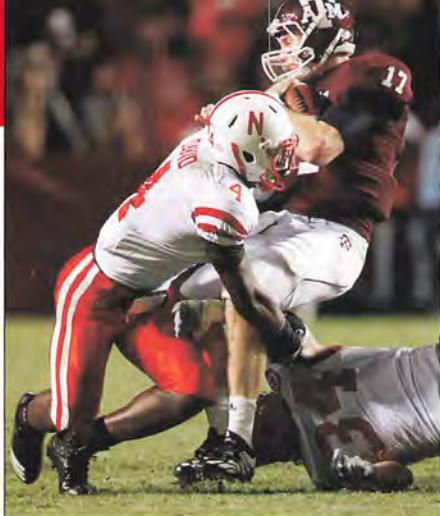




CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: 1) Rex Burkhead fights off defensive back Steven Campbell for extra yards. *Photo by Scott Bruhn.* 2) Tight end Kyler Reed makes a tackle after an interception by Trent Hunter. *Photo by Scott Bruhn.* 3) Jared Crick celebrates after a sack. *Photo by Aaron Babcock.* 4) Cameron Meredith hits quarterback Ryan Tannehill after a pass. *Photo by Aaron Babcock.* 5) Eric Hagg breaks up a pass. *Photo by Aaron Babcock.*

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

LAVONTE DAVID

Junior linebacker Lavonte David went into the game averaging 10.6 tackles to rank second in the Big 12 and 11th nationally. He finished with a team-high 14 tackles, his seventh game this season with a double-figure total. The transfer from Fort Scott (Kan.) Community College also had three tackles for losses, including his sixth sack of the season, a total second on the team to Jared Crick. David now has 120 tackles, tying Lee Kunz (1978) on the Huskers' single-season list.

David is the first Husker to total 100 tackles since Barrett Ruud was credited with 143 in 2004. Ruud holds the school single-season record, with 149 the previous season. David would be on pace to break that record if Nebraska advances to the Big 12 Championship game. The loss to the Aggies delayed Nebraska's winning the North Division. A victory against Colorado would accomplish that.

Husker Report Card

RUSHING

The running game was hit-or-miss, in large part to Taylor Martinez being hobbled. Martinez managed only 17 yards on 11 carries. The burst just wasn't there.

C

PASSING

The completion percentage didn't exactly reflect the quality of Nebraska's passing. Taylor Martinez and Cody Green each threw an interception, and Martinez was sacked twice.

D

RUSHING DEFENSE

Nebraska stopped the run for the most part, though Cyrus Gray rushed for 45 yards on eight carries in the fourth quarter and finished with 137 yards. It was the fifth consecutive game he rushed for 100 yards.

B

PASSING DEFENSE

Gray also caught a game-high nine passes for 65 yards. The Huskers contained Ryan Tannehill, however. Though he completed 19-of-29 without an interception, he was pressured and sacked three times.

B

KICKING/SPECIAL TEAMS

Nebraska won this battle. Alex Henery kept the Aggies pinned deep in their own territory with his punts, while A&M tried three punters including quarterback Ryan Tannehill, with no success. They averaged only 31.4 yards, compared to Henery's 40.8. The Aggies' Randy Bullock did kick three field goals, of course, but he should have; they were from 19, 28 and 29 yards.

B+

THE PAUL FELL PREDICTION

NEBRASKA vs. COLORADO



NOVEMBER 26, 2010

IT'LL BE BLACK FRIDAY FOR THE BUFFS WHEN THE WRAPS COME OFF THE SPECIAL FAREWELL GIFT FROM THE HUSKERS!

QUICK PICKS



(Season, Last Week) **(62-26, 7-1)**

(64-24, 6-2)

(62-26, 4-4)

(63-25, 6-2)

(60-28, 6-2)

(65-23, 7-1)

Colorado at Nebraska	NU 24-17	NU 28-10	NU 34-27	NU 28-13	NU 27-17	NU 27-13
Texas A&M at Texas	UT 17-12	UT 28-24	UT 20-17	A&M 35-17	A&M 23-21	UT 31-30
Kansas vs. Missouri	MU 38-17	MU 42-27	MU 42-21	MU 45-21	MU 34-17	MU 44-13
Oklahoma at Oklahoma State	OU 35-33	OU 38-35	OU 45-35	OU 41-38	OU 40-34	OU 35-31
Houston at Texas Tech	TT 45-21	TT 31-21	TT 56-28	TT 45-34	TT 35-27	TT 31-21
Kansas State at North Texas	KSU 35-7	KSU 28-7	KSU 33-10	KSU 45-17	KSU 41-13	KSU 27-10
Auburn at Alabama	BAMA 24-23	BAMA 31-30	BAMA 17-14	AUB 28-27	BAMA 27-23	BAMA 31-24
Arizona at Oregon	ORE 51-21	ORE 45-17	ORE 38-35	ORE 41-31	ORE 45-35	ORE 49-17

GameStats

SUMMARY

SCORING

NOV. 20, 2010
Kyle Field • College Station, Texas
Attendance: 90,079

	1	2	3	4	F
NEBRASKA	3	0	0	3	6
TEXAS A&M	0	3	0	6	9

First Quarter		NU	TAM
NU	8:53 - Alex Henery 48 yd Field Goal	3	0
	12 plays, 49 yards, 6:07		
Second Quarter			
TAMU	9:08 - Randy Bullock 29 yd Field Goal	3	3
	9 plays, 62 yards, 3:00		
Fourth Quarter			
TAMU	14:33 - Randy Bullock 28 yd Field Goal	3	6
	15 plays, 79 yards, 5:21		
NU	8:31 - Alex Henery 29 yd Field Goal	6	6
	12 plays, 83 yards, 6:02		
TAMU	3:02 - Randy Bullock 19 yd Field Goal	6	9
	12 plays, 68 yards, 5:29		

TEAM STATS

	NU	TAM
Total First Downs	15	19
Rushing	9	9
Passing	6	7
Penalty	0	3
Rushing Attempts	37	41
Yards Gained Rushing	169	169
Yards Lost Rushing	27	31
Net Yards Rushing	142	138
Net Yards Passing	164	172
Passes Attempted	28	29
Passes Completed	17	19
Had Intercepted	2	10
Percent Completion	60.7%	65.5%
Yards per Attempt	5.9	5.9
Yards per Completion	9.6	9.1
Total Offensive Plays	65	70
Total Net Yards	306	310
Avg. Gain Per Play	4.7	4.4
Fumbles: No-Lost	2-0	0-0
Penalties: No-Yards	16-145	2-10
Punts: No-Yards	6-245	7-220
Avg. Per Punt	40.8	31.4
Avg. Net Punt	37.5	30.3
Punt Returns: No-Yards	1-8	0-0
Kickoff Returns: No-Yards	1-15	2-36
Interception Returns: No-Yards	0-0	2-0
Fumble Returns: No-Yards	0-0	0-0
Miscellaneous Yards	0	0
Possession Time	31:13	28:47
Third-Down Conversions	5-15	2-13
Percentage	33.3%	15.4%
Fourth-Down Conversions	1-2	0-1
Percentage	50%	0%
Sacks By: No-Yards	3-23	2-10

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

NEBRASKA

RUSHING	NO	GAIN	LOST	NET	Avg	TD	LG
Burkhead	13	78	4	74	5.7	0	33
Helu Jr.	9	57	5	52	5.8	0	31
Martinez	11	29	12	17	1.5	0	17
Green	3	5	4	1	0.3	0	4
TEAM	1	0	2	-2	-2.0	0	0
TOTAL	37	169	27	142	3.8	0	33

PASSING	ATT	COMP	%	INT	YDS	TD	LG
Martinez	17	11	64.7	1	107	0	24
Green	11	6	54.5	1	57	0	20
TOTAL	28	17	60.7	2	164	0	24

RECEIVING	NO	YDS	TD	LG
Kinnie	5	24	0	8
Paul	4	53	0	24
Reed	3	29	0	15
Helu Jr.	2	22	0	11
Burkhead	2	16	0	10
McNeill	1	20	0	20
TOTAL	17	164	0	24

PUNT RETURNS	NO	YDS	TD	LG
Burkhead	1	8	0	8

KICK RETURNS	NO	YDS	TD	LG
Paul	1	15	0	15

INT RETURNS	NO	YDS	TD	LG
None	--	--	--	--

PUNTING	NO	Avg	LG	50+	IN20
Henery	6	40.8	49	0	2

FIELD GOALS	MADE	ATT	LG	BLKD
Henery	2	2	48	0

KICKOFFS	NO	Avg	TB	OB
Kunalic	3	64.0	1	0

DEFENSE	UT	AT	TT	TFL	SAC	BU	FF	FR
David	7	7	14	4-14	1.0-11	--	--	--
Amukamara	8	2	10	--	--	--	--	--
Osborne	4	5	9	1-0	--	--	--	--
Allen	2	5	7	2-4	0.5-3	1	--	--
Crick	1	6	7	3-6	1.0-6	--	--	--
Gomes	1	5	6	--	1	--	--	--
Hagg	5	0	5	1-4	--	1	--	--
Cassidy	3	2	5	--	--	--	--	--
Meredith	2	3	5	2-5	0.5-3	--	--	--
Steinkuler	0	2	2	--	--	--	--	--
Reed	1	0	1	1-0	--	--	--	--
Ebke	1	0	1	--	--	--	--	--
Stoddard	1	0	1	1-2	1.0-2	--	--	--
Williams	1	0	1	--	--	--	--	--
Moore	0	1	1	--	--	--	--	--

TEXAS A&M

RUSHING	NO	GAIN	LOST	NET	Avg	TD	LG
Gray	26	137	0	137	5.3	0	18
Swope	2	11	1	10	5.0	0	11
Stephens	1	1	0	1	1.0	0	1
TEAM	2	0	2	-2	-1.0	0	0
Tannehill	10	20	28	-8	-0.8	0	11
TOTAL	41	169	31	138	3.4	0	18

PASSING	ATT	COMP	%	INT	YDS	TD	LG
Tannehill	29	19	65.5	0	172	0	36

RECEIVING	NO	YDS	TD	LG
Gray	9	65	0	20
Swope	4	49	0	16
Fuller	1	36	0	36
Jackson	1	8	0	8
Prioleau	1	4	0	4
Nwachukwu	1	4	0	4
Stephens	1	3	0	3
Hicks	1	3	0	3
TOTAL	19	172	0	36

KICK RETURNS	NO	YDS	TD	LG
Judie	2	36	0	20

PUNT RETURNS	NO	YDS	TD	LG
None	--	--	--	--

INT. RETURNS	NO	YDS	TD	LG
Hunter	2	0	0	0

PUNTING	NO	Avg	LG	50+	IN20
Wood	4	33.5	43	0	0

Tannehill	2	21.0	27	0	0
Epperson	1	44.0	44	0	0
TOTAL	7	31.4	44	0	0

FIELD GOALS	MADE	ATT	LG	BLKD
Bullock	3	3	29	0

KICKOFFS	NO	Avg	TB	OB
Bullock	4	67.2	3	0

DEFENSE	UT	AT	TT	TFL	SAC	BU	FF	FR
Hodges	12	2	14	--	--	--	--	--
Williams	2	7	9	--	--	--	--	--
Patterson	1	7	8	1-2	--	--	1	--
Judie	3	4	7	--	--	--	--	--
Miller	4	2	6	2-10	2.0-10	--	--	--
Campbell	2	4	6	1-4	--	--	--	--
Porter	1	5	6	2-4	--	--	--	--
Hunter	3	1	4	--	--	--	--	--
Jerod-Eddie	1	3	4	1-1	--	--	--	--
Harris	2	0	2	--	--	1	--	--
Mathis	0	2	2	--	--	--	--	--
Moore	1	0	1					



Colorado Buffaloes

Colorado has new look without former head coach Dan Hawkins

I JERRY TRICKIE

Colorado has struggled in its last Big 12 season, as it ranks 91st nationally in scoring offense (22.9 ppg) and 81st in total

defense (398.2 ypg). The sub-par play on both sides contributed to a five-game conference losing streak, which included watching

Kansas score 45 unanswered second-half points to earn a 52-45 victory that led to head coach Dan Hawkins' dismissal.



Junior running back Rodney Stewart has been a constant for the Colorado offense this season by posting more than 1,000 yards on the ground to rank third in the league and 17th nationally in rushing (103.5 ypg). He paces the squad with eight total touchdowns and is fourth with 25 receptions.



HEAD COACH

Resume: Brian Cabral took over as interim head coach on Nov. 9 and directed the Buffs to a 34-14 win over Iowa State to snap a five-game losing streak. He had been a CU assistant for 21 years before being elevated after Hawkins was fired.

KNOW YOUR FOE



Scotty McKnight, Sr., WR: Colorado's top receiver, McKnight has 43 catches, including 15 on third or fourth down, with five going for TDs this fall.



Michael Sipili, Sr., LB: Sipili leads the Buffs with 75 tackles and seven TFLs while adding two fumble returns, including one for a score.



Cody Hawkins, Sr., QB: Hawkins, son of the fired coach, returned as the starter after Tyler Hansen was injured and has passed for just 118.2 ypg and nine touchdowns.

PHOTO COURTESY COLORADO SPORTS INFORMATION

2010 SCHEDULE

9/4	Colorado St. (at Denver), W, 24-3
9/11	at California, L, 7-52
9/18	Hawai'i, W, 31-13
10/2	Georgia, W, 29-27
10/9	at Missouri, L, 0-26
10/16	Baylor, L, 25-31
10/23	Texas Tech, L, 24-27
10/30	at Oklahoma, L, 10-43
11/6	at Kansas, L, 45-52
11/13	Iowa State, W, 34-14
11/20	Kansas State
11/26	at Nebraska, 2:30 p.m., ABC

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- Official Husker Huddle pre-game pep rally and other pre-game events, with appearances by former players and athletic department VIPs.
- Admission to the official Husker Huddle and other pre-game events

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*Packages without game tickets will be available for alumni, fans and athletic department donors who secure their tickets elsewhere.

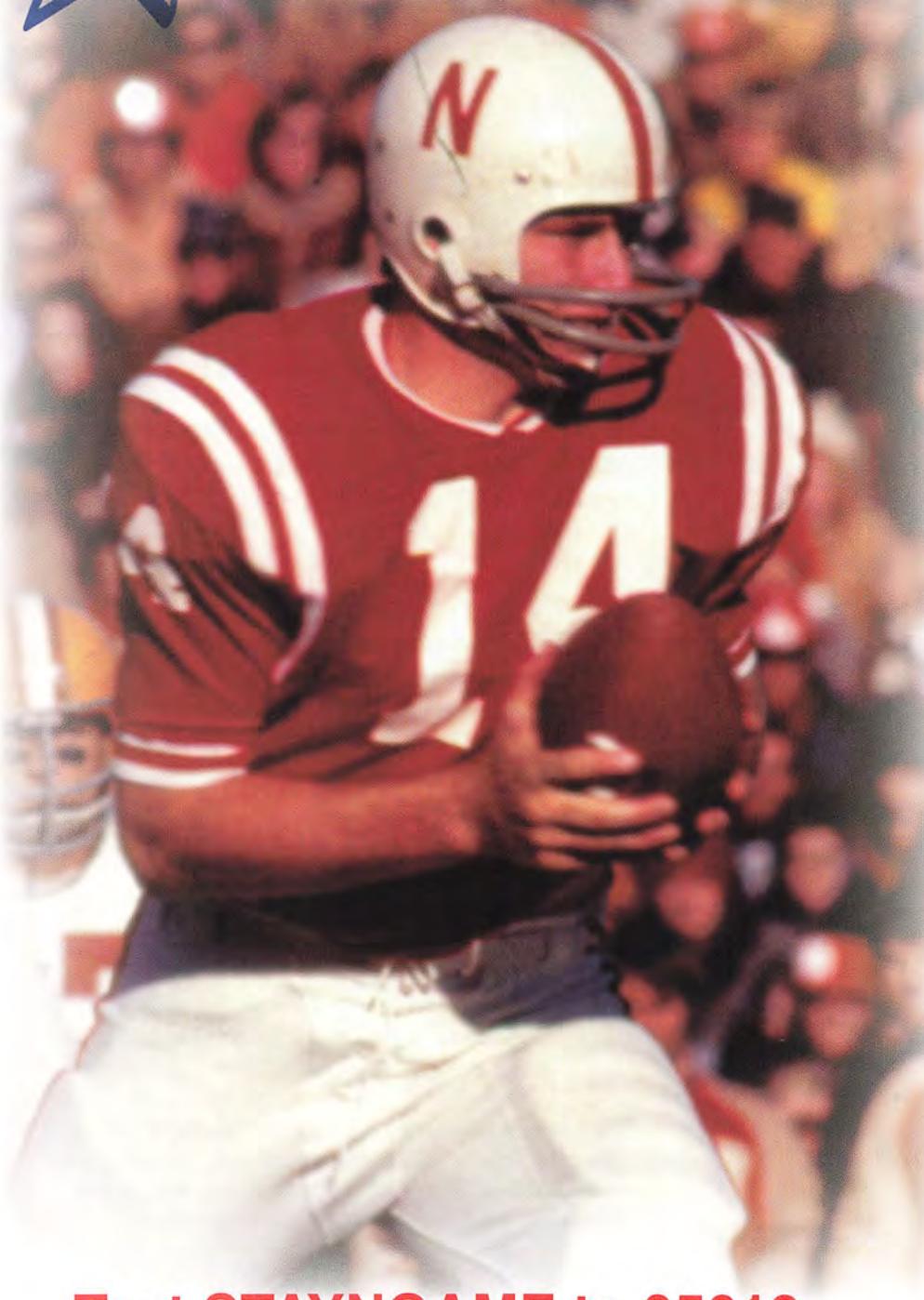


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CDC Funds #5U58/DP002043-02

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PIERRE ALLEN, DE
(DENVER, COLO.)



PRINCE AMUKAMARA, CB
(GLENDALE, ARIZ.)



*JOE BROEKEMEIER, WR
(AURORA, NEB.)



*TYRONE FAHIE, DE
(VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.)



DEJON GOMES, DB
(HAYWARD, CALIF.)



*THOMAS GROVE, LB
(ARLINGTON, NEB.)



ERIC HAGG, DB
(PEORIA, ARIZ.)



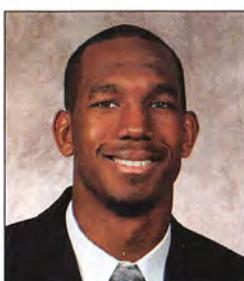
ROY HELU, JR., IB
(DANVILLE, CALIF.)



*ALEX HENERY, PK-P
(OMAHA, NEB.)



RICKY HENRY, OG
(OMAHA, NEB.)



WILL HENRY, WR
(EL PASO, TEXAS)



D.J. JONES, OL
(OMAHA)



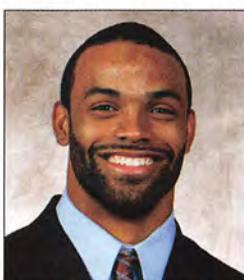
ADI KUNALIC, PK
(FORT WORTH, TEXAS)



ZAC LEE, QB
(SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.)



MIKE MCNEILL, TE/WR
(KIRKWOOD, MO.)



NILES PAUL, WR
(OMAHA, NEB.)



MIKE SMITH, OL
(LAS VEGAS, NEV.)



RICKY THENARISE, S
(LOS ANGELES, CALIF.)



LATRAVIS WASHINGTON, QB
(BRADENTON, FLA.)



*ADAM WATSON, DB
(LINCOLN, NEB.)



ANTHONY WEST, DB
(SAN DIEGO, CALIF.)



KEITH WILLIAMS, OG
(FLORISSANT, MO.)



*DREU YOUNG, TE
(COZAD, NEB.)

* WALK-ON

Transition Class

This year's senior class has been part of a dramatic shift in culture as 22 were original Bill Callahan recruits

Bill Callahan has moved on, returning to the NFL, where he is the assistant head coach and offensive line coach for the New York Jets. Sports Illustrated's Peter King named him NFL assistant of the year for 2009, in fact. Though Callahan might not have been the right coach for Nebraska, he's part of the Cornhusker tradition. And his four-year tenure had its positives as well as negatives.

Among the positives, Nebraska went to back-to-back bowl games as well as playing in the Big 12 Championship game in Callahan's third season, losing to No. 8 Oklahoma 21-7 in Kansas City.

Callahan also recruited many of the players who have made significant contributions in Bo Pelini's three seasons, including 22 listed on the pre-Kansas depth chart.

Pelini's success in such a short time reflects the value of coaching, as well as the importance of talent. His success also mirrors that of Bob Devaney, with whom he is often compared. Devaney immediately turned around a program that had managed only three winning seasons in the 21 preceding his arrival, with players recruited by Bill Jennings, his predecessor.

Eleven-of-13 seniors in Devaney's second season, 1963, signed professional contracts, and two junior starters were drafted as "futures" in competition between

the NFL and AFL.

Senior tight end Mike McNeill, a Callahan recruit, has only positive things to say about his former coach. "Obviously, being fired and the situation we went through, that's tough," McNeill said earlier this season. But "he and his staff recruited me here. I'll always be grateful for the opportunity they gave me. So I don't want any of them to do bad."

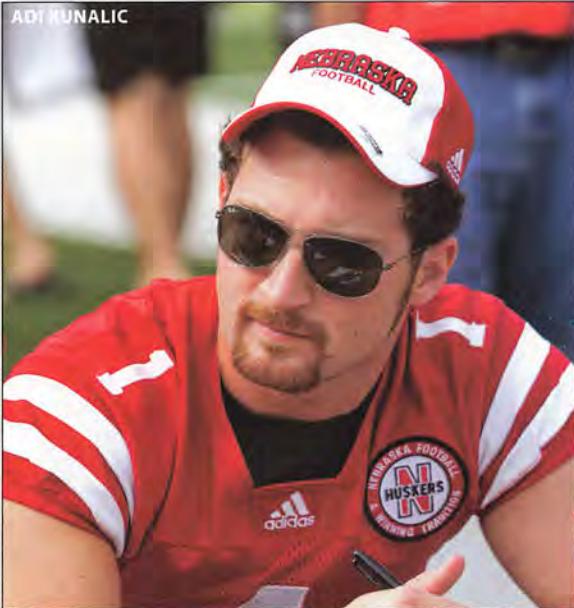
Callahan was "always good with X's and O's, always knew his stuff," said McNeill, who was even aware of the assistant-of-the-year recognition. "I'm happy to see him do well."

"I definitely have no hard feelings or anything. It didn't work out as far as him staying the whole time I've been here. But like I said, it was them who gave me the shot to come here."

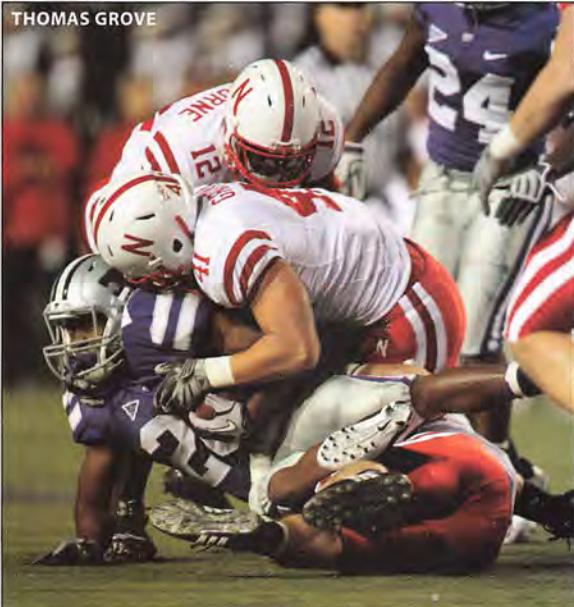
Senior Eric Hagg hasn't kept track of Callahan or his assistants, but "not, like, because they're bad or good," he said at the beginning of the season. "I just am so focused on this (season) now. I usually don't even watch the NFL, so I don't think about Coach Callahan or anything."

The Colorado game is Senior Day, the last time 23 seniors, all but three of whom came to Nebraska under Callahan, will take the field at Memorial Stadium.

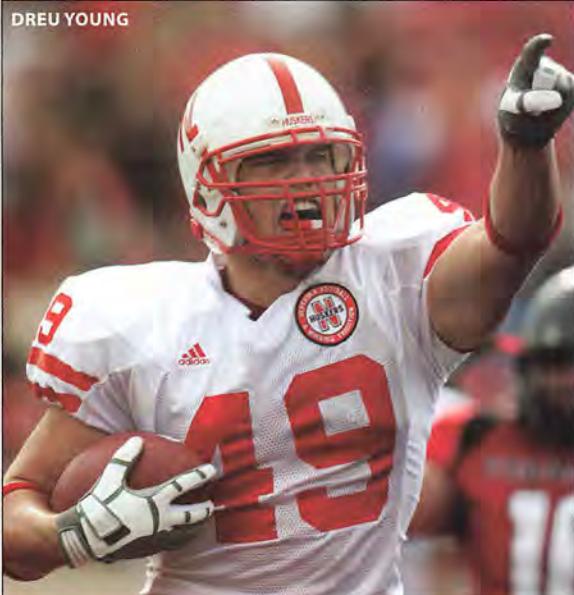
ADRIAN KUNALIC



THOMAS GROVE



DREU YOUNG



NU STEALS BIG TEN COMMIT

Hoosier defensive end commit Max Pirman becomes 17th Husker commit after recent visit I SEAN STEVENS

MAX PIRMAN



Nebraska's game with Kansas marked another opportunity for the Huskers to show off their program to prospective recruits. The number of prospects on hand was reduced from prior weeks, but included two prospects who have been committed to NU for quite awhile – offensive lineman Ryan Klachko (6-4, 287) of Springfield, Ill. and kicker Niklas Sade (6-3, 190) of Raleigh, NC.

Another committed visitor, defensive end Max Pirman (6-5, 218), an Indiana pledge from Orville, Ohio, was considered a bigger point of attention for Husker recruiting fans. Indiana's struggles this year

have caused speculation that there may be a coaching change coming in Bloomington. Pirman said coming into the trip that he was considering Nebraska as "a second option" in case of that coaching turnover.

On Sunday after the visit Pirman reiterated his commitment, "It's making me think, but yeah I'm still committed to Indiana."

Shortly after making those comments, Pirman and his father boarded a plane. By the time that plane had landed in Chicago Pirman was having second thoughts.

"I felt comfortable right away getting off the plane at Nebraska. Right away they were great to me, we talked

about all that, and there were a couple of things that set it over the top."

On Monday, he called NU defensive ends coach John Papuchis to change his pledge.

"He was ecstatic, but then he said there is one thing you have to do for me. You have to gain like 20 pounds and be about 235 coming in there. I said, 'That's no problem, I can work my butt off, come in there and throw my weight around.'"

Pirman is Nebraska's 17th oral commitment for the 2011 class.

PIRMAN'S TEAMMATE ON THE WAY?

High school teammate Mason Monheim (6-1, 215) made the trip with Pirman. A junior linebacker, Monheim holds a verbal offer from Illinois and has visited Cincinnati, Indiana, and Michigan unofficially. Nebraska made a strong impression, though.

"The trip was awesome, it's unbelievable over there," said Monheim. "I didn't expect that at all. I've never seen anything like it. It was a sweet experience."

COMMIT Q&A



TAARIQ ALLEN

At a glance: Weston (Mass.) Rivers School wide receiver Taariq Allen is scheduled to take his official visit to Nebraska this upcoming week. Huskers Illustrated caught up with Allen in this week's commit spotlight.

SEAN CALLAHAN: How hard is it to get noticed in the Northeast? It's not exactly a hotbed for football talent.

TAARIQ ALLEN: It's kind of hard to compete against the kids from Texas. The college coaches just automatically go straight down south to the kids down there. The Northeast, like you said, nobody really takes a look at us. You just have to get out there at different camps and combines and hopefully your coach just has some connections. I was fortunate, but I also brought my end of the bargain with my grades and playing abilities. Everything just worked out.

CALLAHAN: So are you a big fan of the Red Sox, Celtics and Patriots living in Boston?

ALLEN: I'm not a big baseball fan, but I root for the home team. I'm definitely a Celtics fan though and a Patriots fan. When the Celtics won the championship down here for basketball it was crazy. They had a big parade downtown and the players come and ride on the floats and sign autographs. It was a good time. It's been real cool living in Boston with everything that's happened here the last few years.

CALLAHAN: How hard was it to commit to Nebraska without ever visiting for a home game?

ALLEN: When I went up there for the camp, coach (Ted) Gilmore was really coaching me up and he really knew what he was talking about. He was teaching me things I didn't know, and I said that's the kind of guy I want to coach me.

CALLAHAN: If you were to take me out to eat at a great local Boston restaurant, where would you take me?

ALLEN: There's this little mom-and-pop joint called the Silver Slipper. It's a breakfast place. If you go there, you can order whatever – pancakes, sausage, eggs – whatever you want, steak, steak and eggs whatever. It makes you feel at home because it's a little mom-and-pop restaurant. That's the first place I'd think of right here in my hood.

2011 Husker Commit List (17)

★★★ **TAARIQ ALLEN**, WR, 6-3, 191, Weston, Mass. (Rivers)

★★ **AARYN BOUZOS**, DB, 5-11, 185, La Mirada, Calif. (La Mirada)

★★★ **DANIEL DAVIE**, DB, 6-0, 181, Beatrice, Neb.

★★★★ **AARON GREEN**, RB, 5-11, 191, San Antonio, Texas (James Madison)

★★★★ **CHARLES JACKSON**, CB, 5-11, 180, Klein, Texas (Klein Collins)

★★★★ **RYAN KLACHKO**, OL, 6-4, 287, Springfield, Ill. (Sacred Heart Griffin)

★★★★ **TEVIN MITCHEL**, DB, 6-0, 175, Mansfield, Texas (Legacy)

★★★★ **TYLER MOORE**, OL, 6-6, 290, Clearwater, Fla. (Countryside)

★★★ **MAX PIRMAN**, LB, 6-5, 218, Orville, Ohio (Orville)

★★★★ **RYNE REEVES**, OL, 6-3, 300, Crete, Neb. (Crete)

★★ **NIKLAS SADE**, K, 6-3, 190, Raleigh, NC (Wakefield)

★★ **DAVID SANTOS**, LB, 6-0, 193, Klein, Texas (Klein Collins)

★★★★ **DAIMION STAFFORD**, DB, 6-1, 210, Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. (Chaffey CC)

★★★★ **BUBBA STARLING**, QB, 6-4, 193, Gardner, Kan. (Gardner Edgerton)

★★★★ **ZACH STERUP**, OL, 6-8, 260, Hastings, Neb. (St. Cecilia)

★★★★ **JAMAL TURNER**, QB, 6-1, 173, Arlington, Texas (Sam Houston)

★★ **KEVIN WILLIAMS**, DT, 6-2, 275, Holland, Ohio (Springfield)

2011 Unofficial Offer List

Jonathan Aiken
CB, 5-11, 185
Hollywood, Fla.

Darien Bryant
TE, 6-4, 215
Pickerington, Ohio

Ray Drew
DE, 6-5, 243
Thomasville, Ga.

Curt Evans
WR, 6-0, 173
Hollywood, Fla.

Christian French
Athlete, 6-6, 218
Cedar Rapids, IA

Quentin Griffin
DE, 6-3, 230
Rayville, La.

Jalen Grimble
DE, 6-4, 255
Las Vegas, Nev.

Todd Handley
RB, 5-8, 165
Riverside, Calif.

Christian Heyward
DT, 6-2, 269
San Diego, Calif.

Cyrus Hobbi
OL, 6-4, 285
Scottsdale, Ariz.

Charles Jackson
CB, 5-11, 180
Klein, Texas

Mickey Johnson
DT, 6-1, 310
Covington, La.

Lake Koa-Kaiai
DE, 6-4, 250
Honolulu, Hawaii

Keith Lewis
LB, 6-0, 194
Lakeland, Fla.

Wayne Lyons
Safety, 6-0, 190
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

***Dexter Moody**
LB, 6-2, 210
Fort Scott (Kan.) CC

Givens Mordi Price
OL, 6-4, 278
Houston, Texas

***Malcolm Moulton**
WR, 5-11, 185
Fort Scott (Kan.) CC

Patrick Onwuasor
WR, 6-2, 190
Inglewood, Calif.

Todd Peat, Jr.
DT, 6-3, 300
Tempe, Ariz.

Miles Shuler
WR, 5-11, 173
Long Branch, NJ

Joel Willis
Athlete, 5-10, 180
Garden Grove, CA

DeVante Wilson
DE, 6-4, 230
Corona, Calif.

* Junior College
prospect

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DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS

BY JOHN TALMAN
RECRUITING PUBLISHER,
HUSKERSILLUSTRATED.COM

Texas pipeline pumping talent to Nebraska

WITH NEBRASKA playing its final regular-season conference game in Texas, at Texas A&M, it's time to revisit how things have turned out for the Huskers' recruiting in the Lone Star State.

Earlier this year, I wrote about how I didn't feel Nebraska's move to the Big Ten would all of a sudden usher in a sweeping change to this staff's recruiting strategy – specifically in Texas. I pointed to such things as how many Texas players are already on campus, the connections this staff has to the state, and how the ease of travel – especially from Dallas-Fort Worth – makes it an easier sell than people think.

So here we are approaching the end of the regular season and ready for championship-bowl season to begin. The Huskers are quickly approaching their target total for this 2011 recruiting class.

Here are some numbers to chew on with the Huskers heading to the Big Ten.

If you want to look at it closer, of the 85 total players currently reported to be on scholarship, 22 are from Texas. That means over a quarter of Nebraska's scholarship players are from the Lone Star State. That's not counting the 2011 class, so let's look at those numbers. If you include walk-ons and scholarship players, there are 17 more Texans on

the roster than there are players from Colorado, 12 more than from the state of California, seven more than those from Missouri, and five more than the total players from Florida.

There are five players from Texas committed in this current recruiting class. Going by the current Rivals.com Texas Top 100 for the 2011 class, that includes the state's No. 9 player (Aaron Green), No. 17 player (Tevin Mitchel), No. 18 player (Charles Jackson), No. 24 player (Jamal Turner), and No. 41 player (David Santos). Green and Mitchel are both U.S. Army All-Americans while Santos is an Offense-Defense All-American. Mitchel and Jackson are also listed by Rivals.com as the top two cornerbacks in the state this year.

So how about the Big Ten? There are 51 total former Texas high school players currently on Big Ten rosters. Purdue leads the conference with 13. Minnesota has 11 and Northwestern has seven. There are only two teams in the Big Ten that don't have at least one Texas player on their rosters – Illinois and Michigan State.

Head coach Bo Pelini in more than one interview didn't come out and say there would be some sweeping change to his program's recruiting strategy upon moving to a new conference.

What this should tell you, along with looking at the numbers, is this: As I said before, the Huskers have a connection and now an established pipeline to Texas.

It certainly hasn't hurt them recruiting the state in this class. It's arguably the best class of Texas prospects on paper that the Huskers have ever had committed to them in one year. All of those prospects know they'll start their Nebraska careers as Big Ten players.

It also comes down to connections.

Why did Minnesota and Purdue have the ability to recruit Texas prospects to the Big Ten to such a large number? It's about connections on their staffs to the state, just like Nebraska has with Tim Beck, a former Dallas-Fort Worth area high school coach.

Whether it's a philosophy the head coach brought to the table or an assistant who could go down there and be successful, coaching connections are what dictates where you recruit.

Let's face it: Nebraska is a nationally-recruiting based program. It'll go to California, Florida, heck, to Hawaii if it can find a guy who can fit the program. But the Huskers have something special going on in the state of Texas.

That won't change because of a conference change. **N**

Grand Island native is a Husker to Root for

Back-up Brigette Root sees limited action but plays important role for Huskers

BY BOB HAMAR



BRIGETTE
ROOT

NEBRASKA VOLLEYBALL FANS KNOW THE BIG NAMES FOR THE HUSKERS.

They know about players such as Lindsey Licht, Brooke Delano and Sydney Anderson, just to name a few. But it's possible that most fans don't know about one of the team's most important players.

Back-up setter Brigette Root doesn't see much court time for John Cook's team, but the Husker players know how valuable she is to their success.

"She is the glue to this

team," Anderson said. "We wouldn't be who we are today without her. She is the hardest worker in the gym when we're working out or lifting. She knows the game more than anybody on this team.

What she gives up, she gives back, if that makes sense. She's always looking out for everybody else."

Root has been particularly valuable to Anderson as she has

adjusted to playing in the 6-2 offense. Anderson said Root sees things that the other players don't.

"Brigette Root has helped me immensely in that way," Anderson said. "It's almost a mental break that I get. I get to come out and observe what's going on out there instead of trying to fix it on the court."

Root comes by her volleyball savvy naturally. Her father, Bill, is the head coach at Grand Island Senior High. She was recruited as a walk-on setter and has seen limited court time in her first three seasons as a Husker. She had one appearance as a freshman and three last season as a sophomore.

But Cook knows how valuable players such as Root can be.

"Every national championship we've had a player like Brigette who takes care of her teammates," he said. "She is selfless in the ways she helps our program, and that makes her one of the most respected players in our program."

When the Huskers traveled to China early this summer, Root was the

OFFENSE A SUCCESS

The 6-2 offense John Cook installed for this season has had its ups and downs, but in the end, it has the Huskers close to a Big 12 Conference title and gives them a chance to compete for a national crown.

Cook's system relies heavily on his two 6-foot-5 right side hitters, senior Lindsey Licht and freshman Morgan Broekhuis. Others in the business have noticed.

"It's a unique system," Cook said. "I had a college coach who is going to be in the tournament call me the other day, and he loves our system. It's very unique to college volleyball. He thinks we have a great shot to win the whole thing."

DELANO ROLLING

Junior middle hitter Brooke Delano has continued her hot hitting as the season winds down. As of Nov. 15, she led the nation in hitting percentage at .436, but Cook said it's hard for a middle to be the designated go-to player.

"It's tough for the middles because so much goes into her being in position to get set," Cook said. "Brooke means a lot to our team...If you don't go with her, she's going to make you pay, so that's going to help our other kids be better because Brooke is drawing so much attention."

HOPING FOR A 1 SEED

The Huskers are looking for a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament as the season winds down. The four regional sites this year are Austin, Texas; Dayton, Ohio; University Park, Penn. and Seattle.

The Huskers will likely have to face a pretty good team on their home floor at some point in a regional, but the advantage of that is they probably wouldn't have to play a Top-10 team until the regional final if they're the No. 1 seed.

"I think the biggest benefit is it might keep you out of playing a Top-10 team in the third round," Cook said. "You'd rather play an 11-through-20 team than somebody who is 8, 9 or 10."

2010 Schedule

RUNZA/AVCA SHOWCASE

SAT, AUG 28	KENTUCKY	QWEST CENTER OMAHA	W, 3-0
SUN, AUG 29	FLORIDA	QWEST CENTER OMAHA	L, 2-3
TUE, AUG 31	CREIGHTON	OMAHA, NEB.	W, 3-0

BYU TOURNAMENT

FRI, SEP 3	BYU	PROVO, UTAH	W, 3-1
SAT, SEP 4	CAL POLY	PROVO, UTAH	W, 3-0
SAT, SEP 4	IDAHO STATE	PROVO, UTAH	W, 3-0

AMERITAS PLAYERS CHALLENGE

THU, SEP 9	DAYTON	NU COLISEUM	W, 3-1
FRI, SEP 10	W. MICHIGAN	NU COLISEUM	W, 3-0
SAT, SEP 11	ILLINOIS	DEVANEY	W, 3-2

BIG 12 CONFERENCE PLAY

WED, SEP 15	IOWA STATE *	AMES, IOWA	W, 3-1
SAT, SEP 18	COLORADO *	NU COLISEUM	W, 3-0
WED, SEP 22	KANSAS *	NU COLISEUM	W, 3-0
SAT, SEP 25	BAYLOR *	WACO, TEXAS	W, 3-0
WED, SEP 29	OKLAHOMA *	NORMAN, OKLA.	W, 3-1
SAT, OCT 2	TEXAS *	NU COLISEUM	W, 3-1
WED, OCT 6	MISSOURI *	COLUMBIA, MO.	W, 3-0
SAT, OCT 9	TEXAS A&M *	NU COLISEUM	W, 3-0
SAT, OCT 16	KANSAS STATE *	MANHATTAN, KAN.	W, 3-0
WED, OCT 20	TEXAS TECH *	NU COLISEUM	W, 3-0
SAT, OCT 23	MISSOURI *	NU COLISEUM	W, 3-0
WED, OCT 27	TEXAS *	AUSTIN, TEXAS	L, 1-3
SAT, OCT 30	IOWA STATE *	NU COLISEUM	W, 3-0
WED, NOV 3	KANSAS *	LAWRENCE, KAN.	W, 3-0
SAT, NOV 6	TEXAS TECH *	LUBBOCK, TEXAS	W, 3-0
WED, NOV 10	KANSAS STATE *	NU COLISEUM	W, 3-0
SAT, NOV 13	COLORADO *	BOULDER, COLO.	W, 3-0
WED, NOV 17	OKLAHOMA *	NU COLISEUM	7 P.M.
WED, NOV 24	BAYLOR *	NU COLISEUM	7 P.M.
SAT, NOV 27	TEXAS A&M *	COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS	TBA

NCAA TOURNAMENT

FRI, DEC 3-4	NCAA FIRST AND SECOND ROUNDS		TBA
FRI, DEC 10-11	NCAA REGIONALS	TBA	TBA
THU, DEC 16	NCAA SEMIFINALS	KANSAS CITY, MO.	TBA
SAT, DEC 18	NATIONAL TITLE	KANSAS CITY, MO.	TBA

* BIG 12 CONFERENCE GAME



PHOTO BY SCOTT BRUHN

lone setter in one match when the team split up to play two matches at once. That's just Root doing whatever needs to be done.

"I'll do what I can," Root said. "Like in China, I didn't even know I was going to play. I might not train with the setters every day, but I can still set. If I get put in, there's not much I can do except play with what I have."

Setter Lauren Cook, who transferred to Nebraska in January from UCLA, said Root is the perfect teammate.

"Brigette is awesome," Lauren Cook said. "She's someone you look up to. She's just a hard worker. She's always in here 30 minutes before practice playing with a volleyball on the wall. She's always shagging in practice. She's always doing everything."

John Cook said Root is a great role model for all the players. They look at her and know that it's all about the team. Whether you're a starter or a non-starter, every

player on the team has a role.

"We have some kids on our team who are exceptional role models for that," Cook said. "Brigette, for example. That kid will do anything for this team, so it's hard for some of these kids to feel sorry for themselves or to tank and go into a funk when you see kids like Brigette over there who is doing everything she can to help this team whether she's on the court or not."

Root said her role for the Huskers this year has been the same, but now she has a better

understanding of the importance of that role.

"It changes every year, but the basic principle stays the same," she said. "Just being willing to help out and being there for my team. In that respect it's the same as it's always been."

For Root, it's all about the team. "You know how to be a better teammate," she said. "It's amazing what a difference a couple of years can make."

"Every national championship we've had a player like Brigette..."

Around THE Horn

I BRIAN ROSENTHAL

THIS ISSUE MEN'S BASKETBALL BASEBALL WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SOCCER

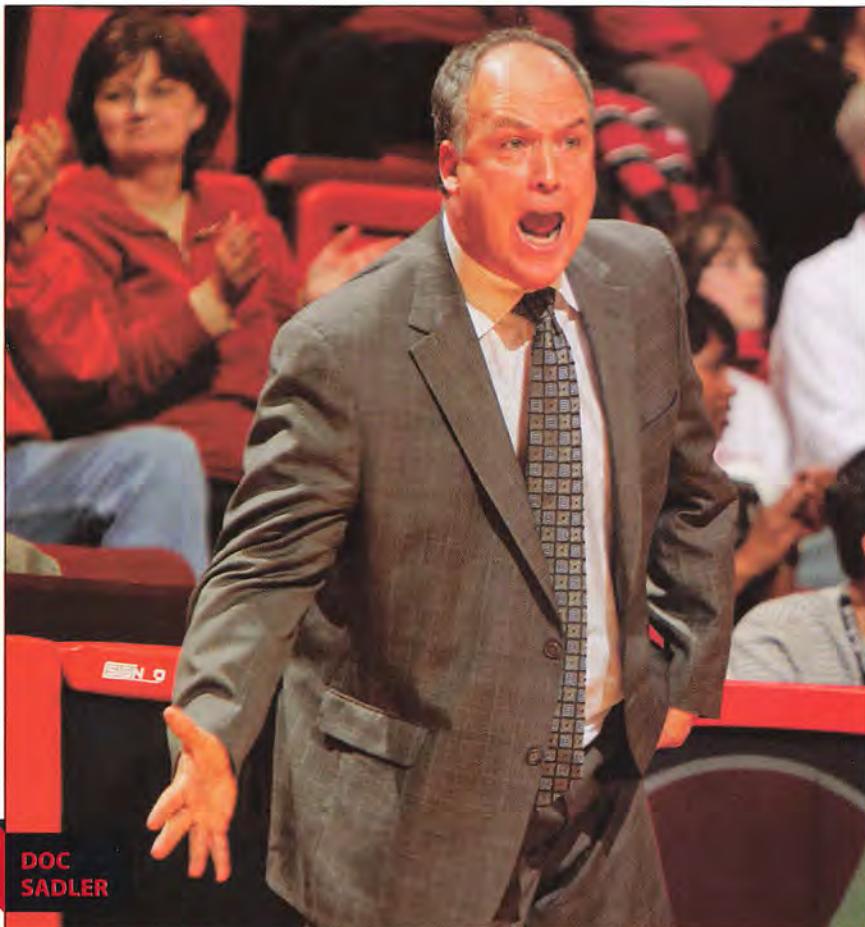


PHOTO BY SCOTT BRUHN

NEW FACES

Doc Sadler wanted athletic players who come from winning basketball programs.

The Nebraska basketball coach believes he's found them in point guard Corey Hilliard, forward Josiah Moore and forward David Rivers. The three high school players make

up the Huskers' 2011-12 recruiting class – one that Sadler said is one of his most athletic classes at Nebraska.

"The thing I like about all three guys is they have a great feel for the game, and that is something that comes instinctively," Sadler said. "As I told the guys in the recruiting

process, it's a great opportunity to come into our program. Nebraska basketball is in a situation where a lot of good things are happening, and we have a lot of good pieces already in place to be successful.

"The other thing that goes unnoticed sometimes is that you want players

WRESTLING

Tucker Lane opened his season by winning the heavyweight title at the Warren Williamson/Daktronics Open in Brookings, S.D.

Lane was one of two Huskers to compete in the tournament. At 197 pounds, Andy Johnson placed third.

A two time NCAA qualifier, Lane earned pins over DeAnthony Cloyd (Midland) and Zack Wilcox (unattached) to reach the semifinals. The junior then defeated Seth McGregor (Iowa Central JC) in the semifinals by a 4-2 decision to advance to the finals against Matt Meuleners (Northern State). Lane escaped with a 3-2 decision over Meuleners in the finals to capture the title.

Johnson defeated Logan Johnson (Iowa Central CC) and Scott Schiller (unattached) each by the score of 11-4 in the first two rounds. Johnson's only loss came in the semifinals, when he fell by sudden victory to Tyler Copsey (Augustana), 3-2, which moved him to the third-place bracket. In the third-place bracket, Johnson collected his first fall of the season by defeating Nick Mart (unattached) in 2:15, to set up a rematch with Schiller, which Johnson won by an 11-6 decision to place third.

who are used to winning and expect to win every time they step on the court. All three players are on teams that could win state championships this season and have an understanding of what it takes to be successful."

Hilliard is a 6-1, 175-pound point guard from Raytown, Mo., who's entering his senior season at Raytown South. Ranked by Rivals.com as a 3-star player, Hilliard averaged 13.1 points and 3.7 assists last season in helping Raytown South to a 21-7 record. He spent the summer playing for the Kansas City Pump 'N Run AAU team, and chose NU over Missouri State, Wichita State, Creighton, Tulane and Southern Illinois.

Moore is a 6-5, 200-pound forward from Norcross, Ga. His Norcross High team is ranked eighth nationally in MaxPreps' pre-season Top 25 and features three players signing with NCAA Division I teams.

Moore averaged 9.3 points and 5.3

rebounds as a junior to lead Norcross to a 27-3 record. Moore also considered South Florida, St. John's, Auburn, Western Kentucky and Wichita State.

Rivers, a 6-7, 180-point forward from Little Rock, Ark., was the last commitment of the recruiting class. Sadler said Rivers is probably the most athletic of the three recruits. He's ranked the No. 46 small forward in the country by ESPN and is a 3-star

player by both Rivals and Scout.

Rivers averaged 14 points, six rebounds and three blocked shots as a junior at Hall High School. Clemson, Wichita State, UTEP and Tulane also recruited Rivers.

"He has good size and will only get stronger once he gets to Nebraska," Sadler said. "The other thing you notice about David is that he plays extremely hard on every possession."

CADY SIGNS WITH HUSKER WOMEN

Connie Yori has signed her second high-profile in-state recruit in as many years.

Freshman Jordan Hooper of Alliance is already making waves in her first season in a Husker women's basketball uniform, and Yori said Emily Cady could make an immediate impact when she joins the program for the 2011-12 season.

Cady is a 6-foot-2 all-state forward from Seward, Neb., who's ranked No. 84 overall on the ESPNU/HoopGurlz Top 100. She averaged 9.4 points, 7.2 rebounds, 3 assists and 2 steals as junior.

"She is an extremely athletic and versatile player who could make an immediate impact for us next year," Yori said. "She is the best player in the state of Nebraska in the class of 2011. At 6-2, Emily is not only a great 3-point shooter, she also has all-around guard skills."

Cady was among four players to sign



in the early signing period, making up a recruiting class ranked No. 24 by Collegiate Girls Basketball Report.

The others are guards Tear'a Lauderhill (Riverside, Calif.), Hailie Sample (Flower Mound, Texas) and Brandi Jeffery (Vacherie, La.). Blue Star Basketball ranks Lauderhill as the nation's No. 26 overall player.

RECORD-SETTING DAY

Maybe Vermont's zone defense wasn't the greatest idea this day.

Nebraska's women took advantage by making a school-record 17 3-pointers en route to a 95-38 season-opening victory over the

Catamounts, a team that advanced to the second round of last year's NCAA Tournament.

The 3-pointers came on 33 attempts, giving the Huskers a 51.1 percentage. Sophomore Lindsey Moore had a career-high five 3-pointers, including four in the first half. She had a team-high 17 points, one off her career high. Junior Kaitlyn Burke was 4-for-4 on 3's.

The previous team record for 3-pointers in a game was 12, set last season in a victory at Baylor.

Nebraska, ranked No. 23 in the coaches' poll, won its 21st consecutive home game.



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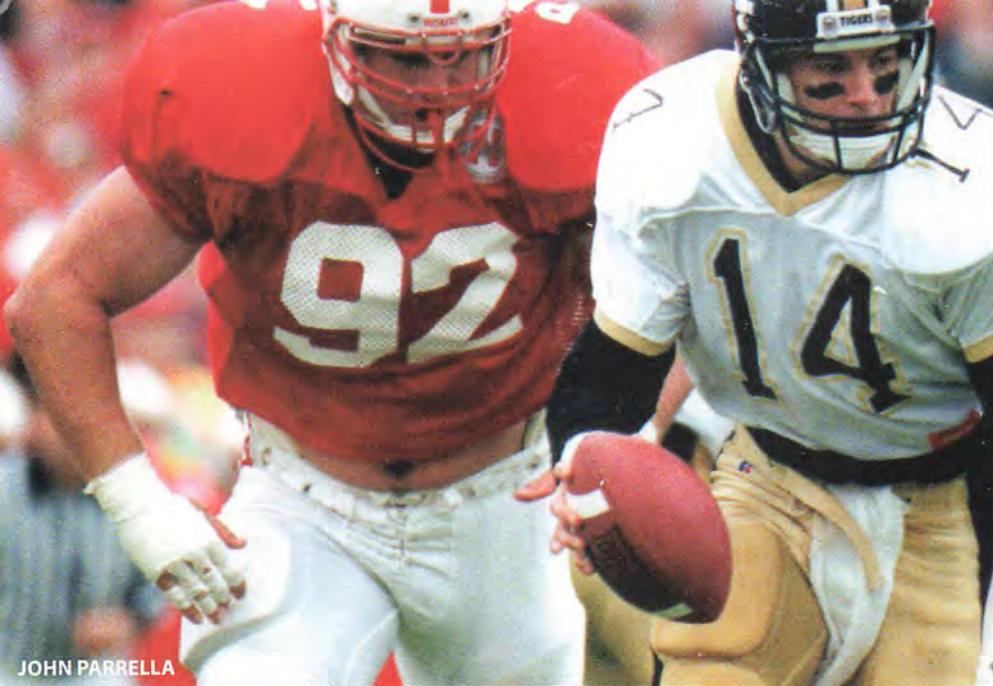




FROM THE ARCHIVES | FUTURE FOE

Next season, Nebraska and Michigan will become division rivals in the Big Ten Conference. The schools have won three times in football, including a tie in 1911. The Wolverines have won three times, most recently in the 1986 Fiesta Bowl, 27-24. Husker running backs coach Frank Solich called the third quarter of that game the most disastrous he had ever seen. After Nebraska took

a 14-3 halftime lead, Michigan scored 24 unanswered points in an 11-minute stretch. Two touchdowns followed Husker fumbles, and the third came on a drive aided by a pair of pass interference penalties. A Wolverine field goal was set up by a blocked punt. Paul Miles (21) carries here, giving starting I-back Doug DuBose a breather, with a block from fullback Ken Kaelin (49). Steve Taylor, a true freshman quarterback, came off the bench in the fourth quarter and nearly directed a winning touchdown drive. His third-down pass was intercepted in the Michigan end zone with 28 seconds remaining.



JOHN PARRELLA

GAMES REMEMBERED

EARLY KNOCK OUT

John Parrella, Blackshirts shut down Colorado, holding 8th-ranked Buffaloes to 8 yards rushing

SO MUCH for Halloween Homecoming drama. Colorado fumbled the opening kickoff. The Buffaloes' first pass was intercepted. And it was downhill for coach Bill McCartney's team from there.

The teams went into the game tied at No. 8 in the Associated Press poll. But Nebraska dominated, and not just offensively. The Blackshirts limited Colorado to a net of 8 yards rushing and 144 total yards. Buff quarterbacks Koy Detmer and Kordell Stewart completed only 12-of-34 passes, with three interceptions, and

were sacked five times, including three by John Parrella

Parrella had signed a letter of intent with Colorado out of Central Catholic High in Grand Island, Neb., only to have the scholarship offer withdrawn. So he walked on at Nebraska.

The senior defensive tackle, who began his Husker career as a tight end, was the Big Eight Defensive Player of the Week for his performance, which included nine tackles.

Teammate Travis Hill, an outside linebacker, was named The Sporting News Defensive Player of the Week, after the

pass interception on Colorado's first possession and forcing and recovering a fumble on a 9-yard sack of Detmer to set up Nebraska's third touchdown just before halftime.

Colorado lost two other fumbles and ran only 56 plays from scrimmage compared to Nebraska's 92, 77 of them rushes for 373 yards. The Huskers controlled the ball for nearly 43 minutes.

TOM OSBORNE:

"Everything being equal, you still have to run the football. In this locale, with this climate, you still have to be able to jam it at people."

NEBRASKA 52, COLORADO 7

Oct. 31, 1992 • Memorial Stadium

Colorado	0	7	0	0	--	7
Nebraska	7	17	7	21	--	52

(N) Calvin Jones 3 run (Byron Bennett kick)
 (N) Jones 47 run (Bennett kick)
 (N) Bennett 24 field goal
 (C) James Hill 3 run (Mitch Berger kick)
 (N) Jones 1 run (Bennett kick)
 (N) Gerald Armstrong 5 pass Tommie Frazier (Bennett kick)
 (N) Lance Lewis 34 run (Bennett kick)
 (N) William Washington 1 pass Frazier (Bennett kick)
 (N) Cory Schlesinger 5 run (Tom Sieler kick)

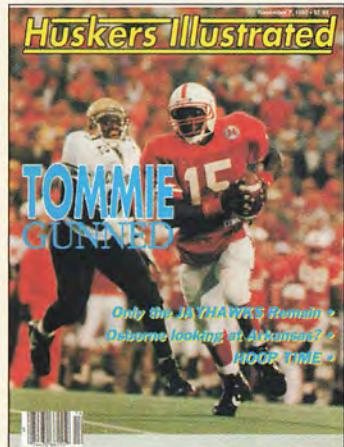
Attendance: 76,287

DO YOU REMEMBER?

► Both teams started true freshman quarterbacks, Frazier and Detmer. The start was only the second of Frazier's career.

► The loss ended Colorado's 25-game Big Eight unbeaten streak, the fourth longest in conference history. The victory was Nebraska's first against a Top 10 opponent since 1988, when the Huskers defeated Oklahoma 7-3. Colorado, the AP national champion in 1990, had won two of the three previous meetings between the teams, with the 1991 game ending in a tie.

► An Arkansas newspaper mentioned Osborne as a candidate to replace Joe Kines as the Razorbacks' coach. Kines was named interim head coach after Jack Crowe was fired one game into the 1992 season. Arkansas hired Danny Ford at season's end.



CROSSWORD & TRIVIA

ACROSS

- Former Colorado head coach
- Day of week for NU-Colorado game
- Colorado campus location
- Wears No. 5 (defense)
- Won Colorado's only Heisman Trophy (1994)
- Leading tackler vs. Kansas
- Colorado nickname
- Lineman with 2 sacks vs. Kansas
- Holder for place-kicks
- Wears No. 17 (offense)
- Colorado school color
- Ex-Husker linebacker now with New Orleans Saints
- Ex-Husker linebacker now with Philadelphia Eagles
- Wears No. 5 (offense)
- 1971 Outland Trophy winner
- Ex-Husker linebacker now with Tampa Bay Bucs

DOWN

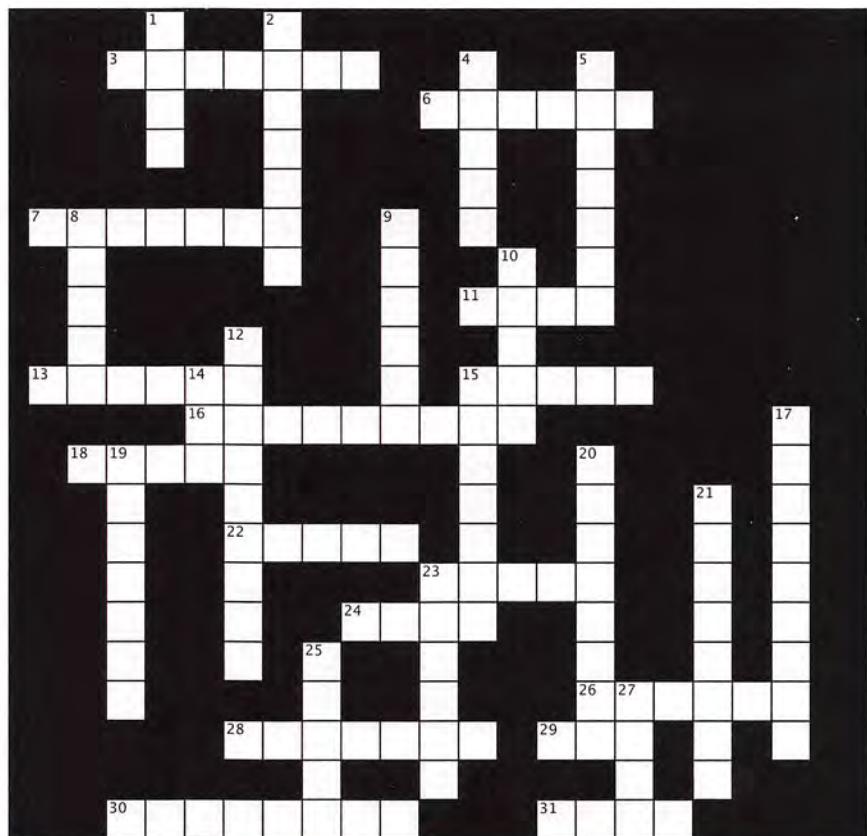
- Leading receiver vs. Kansas
- Recruiting coordinator
- Tight ends coach
- Colorado head coach before Hawkins
- D.J. Jones' hometown
- Colorado interim head coach
- 2009 Big 12 champion
- Semifinalist for Lott IMPACT Trophy
- Network for NU-Colorado telecast
- Had interception vs. Kansas
- Coach of Colorado's national championship team (1990)
- Colorado mascot
- Wears No. 3 (defense)
- Wears No. 3 (offense)
- 1972 Outland Trophy winner
- Wears No. 17 (defense)
- Leading rusher vs. Kansas

Answers will appear in the December issue.

HUSKERNUTZ



WITH THE DEMISE OF THE BIG 12 YOUR WIFE SEEMS TO HAVE DEVELOPED A REAL SADISTIC STREAK.



BRAIN BUSTER

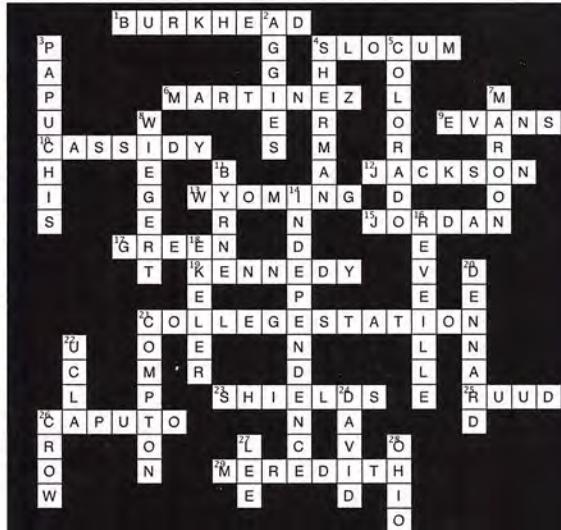


Which of these Husker guards was the LAST to run trick play, the "bounceroosky": John Havekost, Randy Schleusener, Dean Steinkuhler, John McCormick, Andy Keeler, Will Shields, Brenden Stai, Joel Wilks.

Answer will appear in our next issue

NOV. 20 ANSWER: Will Shields, 1992, Colorado, 16 yards

NOVEMBER 20 SOLUTION





THE FINAL WORD

BY MIKE BABCOCK

Pelini, Huskers can't beat the "12th Man"

Texas A&M's Kyle Field is proudly promoted as "Home of the 12th Man."

For those Nebraska fans in a record crowd of 90,079, including some 31,000 students, the 12th man wore black-and-white pinstripes instead of the maroon and white of the Aggies.

A fan dressed in red stood alongside the barricade that defined Nebraska's exit from Kyle Field and yelled as the Huskers passed: "Tell Bo to say anything he wants; I'll pay the fine."

The reference was to the disciplinary action that almost certainly would have been imposed by the Big 12 Conference had Bo Pelini expressed an opinion on the officiating in his team's 9-6 loss to Texas A&M.

Expressed in raw numbers, Nebraska was penalized 16 times for 145 yards (both school records) compared to the Aggies' two times for 10 yards, a disparity not easily explained, though there was no explanation anyway.

The conference doesn't allow officials to comment, just as it prohibits coaches.

So when a reporter tried to ask Pelini about the penalties, the reporter managed to say "penal..." before being interrupted. "No comment. Next question," Pelini said. "I'm not talking about penalties."

Neither were his players or his assistants. In fact, they weren't

commenting about anything.

As was the case following a 62-28 loss at Oklahoma in his first season as coach, Pelini was the only one who talked. Everyone else was off-limits. "We're moving on to Colorado. That's where our full focus is," he said. "You don't need to talk to the players tonight."

Even his remarks were brief. Pelini talked for just 5 minutes.

Many of the penalties were deserved, maybe even most of them. But one, in particular, seemed questionable and was crucial, a roughing-the-passer call against safety Courtney Osborne.

A&M faced third-and-11 at the Nebraska 49-yard line with less than 6 minutes remaining. Osborne hit Aggies quarterback Ryan Tannehill just as he released an incomplete pass.

Out came a flag. First down A&M at the 34-yard line. After five carries by Cyrus Gray, who finished with 137 yards rushing, 43 of them on that drive, Randy Bullock kicked a 19-yard field goal.

Though he wouldn't comment on the officiating, Pelini's opinion of the penalty against Osborne might have been reflected in this remark about the play of the Husker defense: "To hold them to six points or whatever it was...they got nine, but we held them to six."

Another attempt at eliciting a comment from Pelini was deflected: What was the explanation he got on the

Osborne penalty?

"I didn't get any explanations," he said. "You watched the game. You guys make your own deductions."

Then came the question that most Husker fans would have asked given a chance: Any thought that Nebraska's leaving the Big 12 after this season had something to do with the penalties?

"Like I said, you guys can make your own deductions," said Pelini. "All you got to do is look at the numbers."

Had he ever seen such a disparity?

"Like I said, I'm done talking about that," he said. "Next question. Are we done? Because we're not talking about the football game...then let's move on. I got...are we done?"

"Any football questions?"

There were other things to discuss: Nebraska's offensive execution, the health of Taylor Martinez, who hobbled off the field with 4:45 remaining in the first quarter and didn't return until the second half, Pelini being caught by an ABC television camera getting in the face of Martinez late in the first half, after the redshirted sophomore quarterback came back from the locker room.

"I can't talk about that. It's something...it had nothing to do with his injury," said Pelini.

As with the penalties and pretty much everything else in the perplexing loss, there were only blanks to be filled in. **N**

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